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**Event Calendar**

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Date	Event	Location/Time	Other Information
9-13 Apr	LEIU/ALEIA Training	Marriott Hotel, 700 West Convention	<a href="http://www.ialeia.org/2018_conference.php">http://www.ialeia.org/2018_conference.php</a>

2018	Event	Way Anaheim, CA 92801 (714) 750-8000	
<a href="#">Return to Top</a>	**indicates new event/new information added during reporting week		

## Events, Opportunities

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HEADLINE	<b>08/29 SPD settles w/fired officer</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/spd-officer-fired-by-department-to-get-back-pay-and-termination-reversed/600291201">http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/spd-officer-fired-by-department-to-get-back-pay-and-termination-reversed/600291201</a>
GIST	<p>A Seattle police officer fired for the wrongful arrest of a then-69 year old African American man with a golf club on Capitol Hill has settled with the city to get years of back pay, and to have her termination record changed to a retirement.</p> <p>The back pay is more than \$105,000 in two lump payments -- and <u>all sustained findings by the Office of Professional Accountability</u> about Whitlatch's conduct will remain in place.</p> <p>The agreement, signed Saturday by Police Chief Kathleen O'Toole, also is expected to give Whitlatch her full pension for 18 years as an officer.</p> <p>Cynthia Whitlatch said the man in the Capitol Hill case, William Wingate, swung a golf club at her on July 9th, 2014 but the dash camera video did not show that. Wingate was arrested, and the charges were later dropped.</p> <p>In January 2015, Mayor Ed Murray ordered her off from patrol, and Whitlatch was fired that September.</p> <p>Whitlatch, who is white, expressed a strong belief that the disciplinary actions against her were done because key people involved in the case were black.</p> <p>Whitlatch filed a grievance through the Seattle Police Officers Guild. The agreement was released to KIRO 7 Tuesday night by the City Attorney's Office after a request. City Attorney Pete Homes' office and Seattle police declined additional comment on the agreement.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>08/30 Houston, DHS warn of fake agents</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/08/30/houston-dhs-officials-warn-residents-fake-agents.html">http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/08/30/houston-dhs-officials-warn-residents-fake-agents.html</a>
GIST	<p>Houston officials said Tuesday that they have received disturbing reports of people impersonating Homeland Security special agents and telling residents to evacuate in order to rob their homes.</p> <p>The city of Houston said people should ask anyone knocking on their doors for official badges and credentials with their name and organization. The city's statement also notes that during Harvey relief efforts, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is not conducting immigration enforcement operations in the area.</p> <p>Officials for Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) say that "disturbing reports" that some are pretending to be HSI special agents have been knocking on doors and telling residents to evacuate, and then rob their homes once they are empty.</p> <p>"Real HSI officials wear badges that are labeled 'special agent,' which members of the public can ask to see and verify," reads a statement provided to Fox News. ICE officers with Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) also wear badges labeled with ERO Officer. They also carry credentials with their name and organization."</p>

“Members of the public who receive such visitors should ask to see these properly labeled badges, and their credentials.”

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**HEADLINE** 08/29 DHS warned Virginia 3 days before rally

**SOURCE** <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/08/29/charlottesville-violence-homeland-security-242140>

**GIST** The Department of Homeland Security issued a confidential warning to law enforcement authorities three days before the deadly Aug. 12 Charlottesville protest rally, saying that an escalating series of clashes had created a powder keg that would likely make the event “among the most violent to date” between white supremacists and anarchists.

The “law enforcement sensitive” assessment, obtained by POLITICO and reported for the first time, raises questions about whether Charlottesville city and Virginia state authorities dropped the ball before, and during, a public event that was widely expected to draw huge crowds of armed, emotional and antagonistic participants from around the country.

The Aug. 9 report by the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis was done in coordination with local, state and federal authorities at the Virginia Fusion Center. It stated that white supremacists and anti-fascist “antifa” extremists had clashed twice before in Charlottesville, at a white nationalist rally on May 13 and a Ku Klux Klan gathering July 7. At each event, “anarchist extremists” attacked protesters who had been issued permits, leading to fights, injuries, arrests and at least two felony charges of assault and battery.

And both sides were clearly gearing up for an unprecedented confrontation in the weeks leading up to the Aug. 12 “Unite the Right” rally and a weekend of events planned around it by white supremacist rally organizers and those protesting it.

“Anarchist extremists and white supremacist extremists online are calling on supporters to be prepared for or to instigate violence at the 12 August rally,” the assessment warned.

One “probable” white supremacist, it said, had posted an online “call to arms,” saying “antifa must be destroyed.”

“They predicted it,” one senior law enforcement analyst from another state said of the assessment. Each side was saying, “All right everybody, go get your weapons, and we’re gonna go kick their asses.’ And that’s exactly what happened in Charlottesville.”

Charlottesville police already have been criticized for their response to the rally, including for failing to show up in riot gear and for failing to deploy in large enough numbers to separate the groups, beginning with a torchlight march held by white supremacists the night before.

Some law enforcement experts, when briefed on the DHS report by POLITICO, said it reinforced their concerns about the response of law enforcement agencies in Charlottesville.

“It is unconscionable that with so much advance notice of the declared intentions of extremist groups from the left and right vowing to descend upon Charlottesville that law enforcement was not better prepared,” James Gagliano, a recently retired FBI supervisory special agent, said in an interview.

“Stronger police presence as a deterrence, and better separation between the two groups, should have been part of the security plan,” said Gagliano, a former senior FBI SWAT team leader and crisis management coordinator in New York. Authorities responding to Charlottesville, he said, “were woefully underprepared for something they had advance notice of and plenty of actionable intelligence about.”

When contacted about the DHS report, federal, state and local authorities told POLITICO that they could

	<p>not comment in detail but confirmed that they were aware of its warnings and had taken appropriate steps to prepare for possible violence.</p> <p>“The piece was co-authored with the Virginia Fusion Center, with coordination from the Virginia State Police, so they were all properly advised and had, in fact, deployed considerable [law enforcement] resources to the protests/events,” said a senior DHS official. “Beyond that, we’re not able to discuss our analytic assessments.”</p> <p>The DHS official, who said he was not authorized to comment by name about confidential law enforcement reports, referred calls to the Virginia State Police “for comment on how they used the assessment for their force posture for the weekend.”</p> <p>Corinne Geller, public relations director for the Virginia State Police, said the agency could not discuss the assessment. “Because of the sensitive nature of the report,” she said, “we are not in a position to comment on its contents.”</p> <p>“It’s fair to say that we were aware that there was the potential for conflict,” and prepared accordingly, Geller said.</p> <p>Charlottesville police and city officials referred requests for comment to City Manager Maurice Jones, who said, “The city and state police prepared for the worst-case scenarios. We were well aware of the potential for violence.”</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 State housing market sets records</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/734887/state-housing-market-sets-records-in-2nd-quarter/">http://mynorthwest.com/734887/state-housing-market-sets-records-in-2nd-quarter/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — The housing market in Washington state set records in the second quarter of 2017.</p> <p>That’s according to the Washington Center for Real Estate Research at the University of Washington.</p> <p>The statewide median sales price rose to \$337,700 in the second quarter, 6.6 percent higher than the same period last year. This represents an all-time high for statewide house prices and the highest median price ever recorded in the state.</p> <p>The study says a low supply of existing homes for sale is likely a leading factor in price growth.</p> <p>Median prices were highest in King County at \$650,800, with a year-on-year increase over 2016 of 14.9 percent. The lowest median prices were found in Lincoln County at \$89,000.</p> <p>House prices in many other counties rose significantly.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Real estate ‘bubble’ in Washington?</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/734629/another-real-estate-bubble-or-not/">http://mynorthwest.com/734629/another-real-estate-bubble-or-not/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Ever since the <u>real estate market took a dive</u> a decade ago, buyers and sellers around Seattle have been wary of the term “housing bubble.”</p> <p>Bubbles burst, after all. It’s what happened in 2007 when prices went through the roof; buyers were flipping homes, and lending was out of control. Fret not, if you’re worried about a repeat 10 years later.</p> <p>“That is where we were, but that is where we are absolutely not today,” said Windermere Real Estate’s</p>

chief economist Matthew Gardner.

So, currently, no “bubble.” This is largely because, unlike 10 years ago, lending has become very “stringent” Gardner said. High credit scores are required to buy a home. Down payments, which often were not required before the last bubble burst, are also a necessity.

“One thing that people aren’t really thinking about is where mortgage rates are today, relative to where they were in 2007,” Gardner said. “They are a full 2 percentage points lower. Which means you can buy 20 percent more house for the same payment. That’s going to drive prices higher, organically.”

Gardner predicts that rates will rise as high as 5 percent by late 2018.

### **Why Seattle real estate is so expensive**

Still, the Seattle region is experiencing quite a unique set of circumstances — old and new — that are creating unattainable prices for many.

- Topographical: There’s not much land to go around with lakes and Puget Sound in the way. There are also growth management boundaries. This makes what land is available for housing more expensive.
- Development: Builders aren’t building enough to meet the housing demand because land is expensive. Labor costs are also up and that adds to the price.
- Mass transit: Infrastructure, or lack thereof, makes it difficult to get around. So living in a convenient location is more expensive. Time is valuable, and **commutes are growing**. Buyers are moving farther out from Seattle along the freeways to find housing they can afford. More mass transit is coming to bring the region together, but that is decades away.
- More people: More and more newcomers are moving into the area as Seattle’s economy booms. This places even more demand on the already tight market.

Millennials are another concern, Gardner said. They are the up-and-coming market. But builders are not constructing housing in their price point (which goes back to the previous issue that building is currently very expensive).

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Experts: Houston faces years rebuilding</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/hurricane-harvey/after-harvey-leaves-houston-faces-years-rebuilding-n796871">https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/hurricane-harvey/after-harvey-leaves-houston-faces-years-rebuilding-n796871</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>When former Houston Mayor Bill White considers the long recovery ahead for his city in the wake of this week's devastating flooding, he doesn't need to look farther than his own home. His house on the Buffalo Bayou was built on stilts — high enough, he said, to withstand a 100-year flood. But not Hurricane Harvey, which has been called a <u>500-year flood</u>.</p> <p>He fled the house in knee-deep water, and he’s staying with friends while deciding whether to rebuild.</p> <p>"At the end of the day, this is likely to be the <u>largest natural disaster by property damage in history</u>," White said by phone from a neighbor's house on Monday.</p> <p>White knows what he's talking about. He was mayor when thousands of people displaced by Hurricane Katrina fled for Houston in 2005. And he was in office when Hurricane Ike hit the city three years later.</p> <p>White and other disaster-response experts agree that it could be years before Houston returns to its old self. Even then, the city could look different, shaped by a storm that exposed new vulnerabilities.</p> <p>With much of the city still submerged, and Harvey threatening to <u>circle back to Texas</u>, the focus remains on search and rescue operations. Once that ends, local and state officials, with help from the Federal</p>

Emergency Management Agency, will turn to helping tens of thousands of displaced residents find temporary places to live — hotel rooms, mobile homes, shelters. Some businesses and schools will reopen. Others will not.

That effort, along with removal of debris and restoring water and electricity to places that lost it, could last weeks.

“You can’t start rebuilding until you clean it it all up,” said former Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, who steered his state through Hurricane Katrina. “For us, that took 11 months.”

Then comes the next logistical challenge: getting FEMA agents and insurance adjusters out in the field to assess the damage. The scope will be massive.

Then comes reconstruction. For those who choose to stay in Houston, it will require waiting on insurance claims or government assistance, lining up contractors, getting work completed. Some may not receive the funding they need. Others may decide they’re better off moving.

"What these floods do is impact the people who can least afford it more than anybody else," said Michael Sprayberry, emergency management director for the state of North Carolina, which is still dealing with the aftermath of 2016’s Hurricane Matthew.

Local officials will need to come up with a restoration plan, often laid out in phases. But at each step there will be a level of improvisation, as unexpected problems turn up and the damage reveals flood risks in new places, said Tricia Wachtendorf, director of the Disaster Research Center at the University of Delaware. That may result in new restrictions on construction.

Homeowners and business owners will struggle to find good contractors, complete government paperwork, reach officials who can explain what to do next. There will undoubtedly be tension between the desire to rebuild quickly and the need to take steps to avoid a similar disaster.

"This process can take years," Wachtendorf said. "Survivors should be prepared for that."

It may also be difficult to keep skilled workers from leaving for better opportunities elsewhere.

"People have to be convinced to go back to their hometown even though it’s obliterated," Barbour said. "That means having a place to stay, having a job, and your kids having a place to go to school."

Those issues can feel distant now in Houston, where many of the largest businesses remain shuttered either because their buildings are damaged or their employees can’t get in to work.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Russia, UAE tell NKorea: stop provoking</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/russia-uae-north-korea-stop-provocations-49487240?cid=clicksource_76_2_hero_headlines_bsq_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/russia-uae-north-korea-stop-provocations-49487240?cid=clicksource_76_2_hero_headlines_bsq_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The foreign ministers of Russia and the <u>United Arab Emirates</u> urged <u>North Korea</u> on Tuesday to stop its provocations and obey United Nations resolutions, after Pyongyang's launch of a ballistic missile over Japan.</p> <p>Speaking in Abu Dhabi, the two ministers offered a forceful warning for Pyongyang, with Emirati Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan particularly calling for North Korea to stop its "provocations."</p> <p>But what was left unsaid between the two ministers was their own diplomatic and commercial ties to North Korea, with the UAE in particular home to thousands of its workers whose wages help Pyongyang avoid international sanctions.</p>

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who is visiting the UAE as part of a three Gulf Arab nation tour over the ongoing diplomatic crisis involving Qatar, avoided discussing that dispute. He instead focused in part on North Korea.

"Regarding North Korea and the missile tests it is conducting, we stick to the resolutions of the U.N. Security Council and we insist on the fact that our North Korean neighbors should fully respect those resolutions," Lavrov said. "We base our position on these statements during discussions in the Security Council and will do the same in the session, which as far as we understand is being planned now and which will be dedicated to discussing the last missile launches from North Korea."

Sheikh Abdullah went further.

"The situation cannot continue to escalate between North Korea on one side and Japan and South Korea on the other," he said. "North Korea cannot continue to disregard the U.N. Security Council resolutions and the U.N.'s call to stop its provocations."

The remarks by the two, however, did not mention their countries' commercial ties to Pyongyang.

A 2015 U.N. report suggested that the more than 50,000 North Koreans working overseas earned Pyongyang between \$1.2 billion and \$2.3 billion a year. Other estimates put earnings in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

The major markets for North Korean workers are China and Russia, but the Gulf also hosts thousands. In the UAE, Pyongyang also has at three restaurants it uses to earn hard currency while some 1,500 North Koreans work in the country, according to two officials who told The Associated Press that more may be coming.

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HEADLINE	<b>08/29 Houston floods: 2 dams, levee overflow</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/bracing-harveys-return-worry-renews-worst-49483262?cid=clicksource_81_2_hero_headlines_headlines_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/bracing-harveys-return-worry-renews-worst-49483262?cid=clicksource_81_2_hero_headlines_headlines_hed</a>
GIST	<p>A pair of 70-year-old reservoir dams that protect downtown Houston and a levee in a suburban subdivision began overflowing Tuesday, adding to the rising floodwaters from Harvey that have crippled the area after five consecutive days of rain.</p> <p>Brazoria County authorities posted a message on Twitter warning that the levee at Columbia Lakes south of Houston had been breached and telling people to "GET OUT NOW!!!" Brazoria County Judge Matt Sebesta said residents were warned that the levee would be overtopped at some point, and a mandatory evacuation order was given Sunday.</p> <p>Engineers began releasing water from the Addicks and Barker reservoirs Monday to ease the strain on the dams. But the releases were not enough to relieve the pressure after one of the heaviest downpours in U.S. history, <u>Army Corps of Engineers</u> officials said. Both reservoirs are at record highs.</p> <p>The release of the water means that more homes and streets will flood, and some homes will be inundated for up to a month, said Jeff Lindner of the Harris County Flood Control District.</p> <p>The county is trying to determine where the water will go, Lindner said.</p> <p>The disaster is unfolding on an epic scale, with the nation's fourth-largest city mostly paralyzed by the storm that parked itself over the Gulf Coast. With nearly 2 more feet (61 centimeters) of rain expected on top of the 30-plus inches (76 centimeters) in some places, authorities worried the worst might be yet to come.</p>

	<p>Harvey kept drenching Houston and the surrounding area. Rain fell Tuesday at about half an inch (1 centimeter) per hour over Harris County — home to Houston — and up to 2 inches (5 centimeters) per hour to the east.</p> <p>The Houston metro area covers about 10,000 square miles (25,900 square kilometers), an area slightly bigger than <u>New Jersey</u>. It's crisscrossed by about 1,700 miles (2,700 kilometers) of channels, creeks and bayous that drain into the Gulf of Mexico, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) to the southeast from downtown.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Home prices surge; led by Seattle</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/A/APFN_US_HOME_PRICES?SITE=AP&amp;SECTION=HOME&amp;TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&amp;CTIME=2017-08-29-09-01-34">http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/A/APFN_US_HOME_PRICES?SITE=AP&amp;SECTION=HOME&amp;TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&amp;CTIME=2017-08-29-09-01-34</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>WASHINGTON (AP) -- U.S. home prices climbed higher in June with gains that are eclipsing income growth - creating affordability pressures for would-be buyers.</p> <p>The Standard &amp; Poor's CoreLogic Case-Shiller 20-city home price index rose 5.7 percent in June, according to a Tuesday report. The separate national average rose as well, putting it 4.3 points above its housing bubble-era peak in July 2006.</p> <p>The price increases are different from the bubble period, when subprime mortgages led to a housing bust. There is a shortage of properties for sale, causing the prices to steadily rise at more than double the pace of average hourly earnings. Buyers are also relying on historically low mortgage rates to ease the affordability pressures. Cheaper borrowing costs have kept buyer demand strong despite the price increases.</p> <p>Prices are likely to keep rising, said David Blitzer, chairman of the index committee at S&amp;P Dow Jones Indices.</p> <p>"Given current economic conditions and the tight housing market, an immediate reversal in home price trends appears unlikely," Blitzer said.</p> <p>The largest price gain over the past year occurred in the Seattle metro area with a 13.4 percent increase year-over-year. Portland, Oregon and Dallas recorded sizable price growth. But other metro areas are seeing a more tempered increase in home values.</p> <p>Prices rose less than 4 percent in the more expensive New York City and Washington, DC markets. They increased just 2.9 percent in Cleveland and 3.2 percent in Chicago.</p> <p>The National Association of Realtors said last week that the number of existing homes listed for sale has plummeted 9 percent over the past 12 months to 1.92 million. Because buyers are competing for fewer homes, the Realtor's median sales price has surged 6.2 percent to \$258,300.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Seattle home price growth leads nation</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.seattletimes.com/business/real-estate/seattle-leads-nation-in-home-price-growth-for-10th-straight-month/">http://www.seattletimes.com/business/real-estate/seattle-leads-nation-in-home-price-growth-for-10th-straight-month/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The Seattle-area home market keeps picking up steam, with prices rising faster than anywhere else in the country for the 10th straight month.</p> <p>The typical single-family home cost across the region soared 13.4 percent in June from a year prior, according to the monthly Case-Shiller home price index, released Tuesday. No other region was close;</p>



	<p>Portland was second, with 8.2 percent growth in home values.</p> <p>The Seattle market has gotten hotter and hotter with every passing month so far this year.</p> <p>The last time prices were rising this fast locally was the 2006 bubble, when prices rocketed up nearly 20 percent in a year before crashing back down during the recession.</p> <p>No city in the country has seen prices soar this fast since the San Francisco market exploded three years ago.</p> <p>Prices here are again rising more than twice as fast as the national average. Across the country, home costs increased 5.8 percent.</p> <p>Home prices have now skyrocketed 78 percent since bottoming out five years ago. And they're up 19 percent over the old bubble high from last decade.</p> <p>Prices continue to soar around the state, as well.</p> <p>The new statewide median home has hit a record price of \$337,700, according to a <u>quarterly report</u> released Monday by the University of Washington's Runstad Center for Real Estate.</p> <p>Prices rose in every metropolitan area in the state. Compared to a year ago, home values grew 16 percent in Clark County, 15 percent in Whatcom County and 12 percent in Yakima County.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Man w/rifle shot by King Co. deputy</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/crime/enumclaw-man-shot-by-king-county-deputies-expected-to-survive-authorities-say/">http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/crime/enumclaw-man-shot-by-king-county-deputies-expected-to-survive-authorities-say/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A 39-year-old Enumclaw man is expected to survive after he was shot by a King County sheriff's deputy who was investigating a domestic violence call in the predawn hours Tuesday.</p> <p>Deputies were responding to a report of a man assaulting his girlfriend at a home in the 29500 block of Southeast 472 Street in Enumclaw at 3:48 a.m, according to sheriff's spokeswoman Sgt. Cindi West.</p> <p>Once deputies arrived they were able to help the girlfriend and two children get out of the house, she said.</p> <p>A few minutes later, the deputies heard a noise, West said. Using night vision goggles, one of them was able to see a man creeping down the driveway in the dark with a rifle, she said.</p> <p>The two deputies tried to get the suspect to drop his rifle, but he would not comply, she said, and instead raised the rifle at the deputies.</p> <p>One of the deputies, an 18-year veteran of the force, fired at least once and struck the suspect, she said.</p> <p>The man was taken to Harborview Medical Center and is expected to survive.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 US officials: NKorea fired IRBM</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-missiles-pentagon-idUSKCN1B91OB?il=0">http://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-missiles-pentagon-idUSKCN1B91OB?il=0</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The missile North Korea fired early on Tuesday was likely an intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) and further analysis was underway to determine whether it was a success or failure, two U.S. officials said.</p>

	<p>The officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the missile appeared to be a KN-17, or Hwasong-12, according to initial data.</p> <p>According to the Pentagon, an IRBM has a range of between 1,500 and 3,000 nautical miles (1,726 miles to 3,452 miles/ 2,778 km to 5,556 km).</p> <p>President Donald Trump warned on Tuesday that “all options are on the table” as the United States considers its response to North Korea’s firing of a ballistic missile over northern Japan’s Hokkaido island into the sea early in the Asian day.</p> <p>The Pentagon said that diplomacy was still the preferred option.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Iran shrugs off US ‘dream’ demand</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/iran-donald-trump-nikki-haley-dream-iaea-military-site-inspections-nuclear-deal/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/iran-donald-trump-nikki-haley-dream-iaea-military-site-inspections-nuclear-deal/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p><b>TEHRAN, Iran</b> -- Iran has dismissed a top U.S. diplomat's demand for the inspection of Iranian military sites by the U.N. nuclear watchdog, shrugging off comments by America's ambassador to the U.N. as only a "dream."</p> <p>Iran's government spokesman Mohammad Bagher Nobakht told reporters that the <u>demand by Ambassador Nikki Haley</u> wasn't worth any attention. Iran will not accept any inspection of its sites and "especially our military sites."</p> <p>He says the sites and all information about them are "classified." Iranian state TV broadcast his Nobakht's remarks.</p> <p>Earlier last week Haley said the United States wants inspection of Iranian military and non-military sites to determine its compliance with the landmark <u>2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers</u>. The deal saw Iran cap its nuclear activities, in return for lifting of crippling sanctions.</p> <p>Haley made the new demand after returning from <u>meetings earlier in the week at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)</u> in Vienna, where she stressed U.S. "concerns about ensuring Iran strictly adheres to its obligations" under the nuclear pact.</p> <p>One of Haley's primary missions -- not just in Vienna but back at U.N. Headquarters -- is to persuade the international community that Iran is not adhering to those obligations, and to ensure that it does.</p> <p>Speaking to reporters back in New York after her trip, Haley said, "as good as the IAEA is, it can only be as good as what they are permitted to see."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Russia: upcoming war drills not a threat</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/russia-allay-western-fears-planned-war-games-49485909?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/russia-allay-western-fears-planned-war-games-49485909?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The Russian military sought Tuesday to allay Western fears about major war games set for next month, describing them as regular drills that will not threaten anyone.</p> <p>The Zapad (West) 2017 maneuvers organized jointly by <u>Belarus</u> and Russia have raised NATO concerns. Some alliance members, including the Baltic states and Poland, have criticized Moscow for a lack of transparency and questioned Moscow's intentions.</p>

	<p>Russia-West relations have been badly strained over Moscow's annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula and continuing fighting in eastern Ukraine. Amid spiraling tensions, Western worries about the planned maneuvers have ranged from allegations that Russia could use the maneuvers to permanently deploy its forces to Belarus to fears of a surprise attack on the Baltics.</p> <p>Russia's Deputy Defense Minister, Lt. Gen. Alexander Fomin, rejected what he described as Western "myths about the so-called Russian threat."</p> <p>"The most improbable scenarios have been floated," he said at a briefing for foreign military attaches. "Some have reached as far as to claim that the Zapad 2017 exercises will serve as a 'platform for invasion' and 'occupation' of Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine."</p> <p>Fomin said the Russian military will invite foreign observers to the Sept. 14-20 drills in Belarus and Western Russia, which will involve 5,500 Russian and 7,200 Belarusian troops, about 70 aircraft, up to 250 tanks and 200 artillery systems and 10 navy ships.</p> <p>Moscow's assurances have failed to assuage Russia's neighbors, which expect the drills to be far greater in scope than officially declared.</p> <p>Estonian Defense Minister Juri Luik said last month that Moscow could deploy up to 100,000 troops for the maneuvers. Poland's Deputy Defense Minister Michal Dworczyk also questioned the Russian official claims, saying that Warsaw expects many more Russian soldiers and equipment to be deployed.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Niger: torrential rains kill more than 40</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/niger-rains-kill-40-capital-49488808?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/niger-rains-kill-40-capital-49488808?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Niger's government says torrential rains have killed at least 44 people in the capital and other parts of the West African country.</p> <p>Director General of Civil Protection and Disasters Col. Aboubacar Bako said Tuesday that hundreds of homes were destroyed in rains just outside <u>Niamey</u> on Monday. He says the rains began Saturday in the capital and surrounding areas.</p> <p>Saley Abdouhe, the head of Gabougoura village, has appealed to residents in at-risk areas to evacuate and take shelter in schools. He says the main cause of flooding is the obstruction of drainage channels.</p> <p>Some neighborhoods have dug ravines to ease the damage.</p> <p>The government is providing emergency food assistance, and aid organizations are providing shelter and other immediate help.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 China: NKorea tensions 'tipping point'</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/china-says-north-korea-tensions-reached-tipping-point-9167188">http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/china-says-north-korea-tensions-reached-tipping-point-9167188</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>BEIJING: China warned that tensions on the Korean peninsula have reached "tipping point" after North Korea Tuesday (Aug 29) fired a ballistic missile over Japan, but said the United States and South Korea are partly to blame.</p> <p>Foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying urged all sides to avoid provocations and repeated Beijing's</p>

	<p>call for the North to suspend missile tests in return for a halt to US-South Korean military exercises.</p> <p>The situation is "now at a tipping point approaching a crisis. At the same time there is an opportunity to reopen peace talks," Hua told a regular news briefing.</p> <p>"We hope relevant parties can consider how we can de-escalate the situation on the peninsula and realise peace and stability on the peninsula," she added.</p> <p>Sirens blared out early Tuesday and text messages were fired off across the north of Japan, warning people in the missile's flightpath to take cover.</p> <p>Seoul and Washington last week began annual war games which China opposes and are viewed by nuclear-armed Pyongyang as a highly provocative rehearsal for invasion. The North always meets them with threats of strong military counteraction.</p> <p>Hua said the United States and South Korea "held one round after another of joint military exercises and they exerted military pressure on the DPRK (North Korea)".</p> <p>"After so many rounds and vicious cycles, do they feel they are nearer to peaceful settlement of the issue?"</p> <p>"The facts have proven that pressure and sanctions cannot fundamentally solve the issue," she said, referring to UN sanctions imposed against North Korea.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/28 Houston police save lives, battle looters</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abc13.com/houston-police-focus-on-saving-lives-battling-looters/2350439/">http://abc13.com/houston-police-focus-on-saving-lives-battling-looters/2350439/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>HOUSTON, Texas (KTRK) -- As the sun rose over Houston this morning, police went to work to rescue victims of the flash flood emergency that left thousands of people stuck inside their flooded homes.</p> <p>Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo told GMA that officers completed more than 2,000 rescue missions this weekend after Hurricane Harvey made landfall on the central Texas coast.</p> <p>Harvey, since downgraded to a tropical storm, dumped catastrophic amounts of rain on Houston beginning Saturday, leaving thousands of drivers stranded and many more homes flooded out.</p> <p>"I'm happy to report we're down to about 250 folks that are still waiting for rescues or locations," Acevedo said. "We've made some great progress, and we're just really grateful that despite the power of this storm, we haven't had more loss of life."</p> <p>Acevedo also said officers are focused on protecting the city from looters as floodwater recede.</p> <p>"We've already arrested a handful of looters. We've made it real clear to our community we're going to do whatever it takes to protect their homes and their businesses," Acevedo said. "And when people come from the outside to Houston, Texas, know we're going to be out in the city, we're not going to rest as a police department or law enforcement community until people restore their lives."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Kittitas Co. declares wildfire emergency</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.king5.com/news/local/wildfires/wildfire-prompts-state-of-emergency-in-kittitas-county/469152442">http://www.king5.com/news/local/wildfires/wildfire-prompts-state-of-emergency-in-kittitas-county/469152442</a>
<b>GIST</b>	Kittitas County officials have declared a state of emergency due to the increasing fire threat from the Jolly Mountain fire.

	<p>The county Board of Commissioners approved the resolution Tuesday at the request of the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office who has issued level 2 evacuations to over 500 homes threatened by the fire.</p> <p>Firefighters are battling the blaze that is burning 11 miles northwest of Cle Elum and has burned approximately 4,682 acres and is 0 percent contained.</p> <p>The resolution suspends typical "red tape" and allows county departments to sign contracts swiftly and incur expenses needed for emergency operations.</p> <p>Kittitas County's Emergency Operations Center, which activated as a result of the resolution, will coordinate requests and information with all county departments.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 WSDOT advisory Labor Day travel</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://q13fox.com/2017/08/29/construction-wildfire-danger-concerns-for-labor-day-weekend-travel/">http://q13fox.com/2017/08/29/construction-wildfire-danger-concerns-for-labor-day-weekend-travel/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SNOQUALMIE PASS, Wash. – It's not too early to get prepared for the big holiday travel weekend.</p> <p>That's the message from the Washington State Department of Transportation, which said traffic is expected to double during the long weekend, and delayed construction projects could mean your travel times may be even longer than usual.</p> <p>Time is running out for construction crews and some major work will still be underway during one of the busiest travel weekends of the year.</p> <p>"Some people are already back to school, some are going next week, so everybody's trying to cram that last vacation in," said WSDOT's Brian White.</p> <p>Normally about 25,000 cars travel across Snoqualmie Pass each day but the coming holiday weekend means traffic will likely be much heavier.</p> <p>"Even if everything is perfect, it's still going to take you longer," said White.</p> <p>WSDOT predicts congestion will be thick heading eastbound over the pass by Saturday – but traveling back on Labor Day could be even more daunting.</p> <p>When you consider the multiple construction projects along I-90, even a minor fender bender could make your road trip even longer.</p> <p>"Then you have someone break down or you have a wreck and then the whole system breaks down," said White.</p> <p>WSDOT said despite the great construction weather some contractors are behind schedule due to a recent <u>strike</u> by concrete delivery-truck drivers</p> <p>Drivers will not only have to contend with congested construction zones but also the threat of wildfire. Last week smoke from a brush fire near <u>Ellensburg</u> shut down the freeway. The smoke was so thick it caused a multicar crash that killed one person.</p> <p>Since the wildfire danger for Washington is either in the high or extreme category, drivers are being urged to be careful when hitting the road.</p> <p>WSDOT also warned drivers folks to resist using their cellphone's navigation app to find a way around construction project.</p>

	Officials said the apps don't always measure the true conditions of side roads or city streets – and countless other drivers might have the same idea, meaning you're probably not going to be saving much time after all.
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 Marking the start of hajj</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/ML_SAUDI_HAJJ?SITE=AP&amp;SECTION=HOME&amp;TEMP_LATE=DEFAULT&amp;CTIME=2017-08-30-05-25-13">http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/ML_SAUDI_HAJJ?SITE=AP&amp;SECTION=HOME&amp;TEMP_LATE=DEFAULT&amp;CTIME=2017-08-30-05-25-13</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>MECCA, Saudi Arabia (AP) -- In Saudi Arabia, more than 1.7 million pilgrims are marking the start of the hajj pilgrimage on Wednesday by circling the cube-shaped Kaaba in Mecca - Islam's holiest site - and performing a series of rites that trace the footsteps of the Prophet Muhammad.</p> <p>Muslims believe the rites also trace the footsteps of the prophets Ibrahim and Ismail - Abraham and Ishmael in the Bible.</p> <p>The Kaaba represents the metaphorical house of God and the oneness of God in Islam. Observant Muslims around the world face toward the Kaaba during the five daily prayers.</p> <p>The hajj is required of all Muslims once in a lifetime. The physically demanding journey tests pilgrims' patience as they withstand long waits and thick crowds on their path to achieving spiritual purification and repentance.</p> <p>The journey of the five-day-long pilgrimage begins for many when they depart from their countries dressed in "ihram." For men, that entails wearing only terrycloth, seamless white garments meant to represent unity among Muslims and equality before God. Women wear loose clothing, cover their hair and forgo makeup and nail polish to achieve a state of humility and spiritual purity.</p> <p>After prayers in Mecca, pilgrims will head to an area called Mount Arafat on Thursday where the Prophet Muhammad delivered his final sermon. From there, pilgrims will head to an area called Muzdalifa, picking up pebbles along the way for a symbolic stoning of the devil and a casting away of sins that takes place in the Mina valley for three days.</p> <p>Over the years, the Saudi government has spent billions of dollars to improve the safety of the pilgrimage, particularly in Mina where some of the deadliest incidents have occurred, including a stampede and a collision of two crowds that crushed people under the force in 2015 that killed more than 2,400 people.</p> <p>Saudi Interior Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Mansour al-Turki told reporters in a news conference that a more than 100,000-strong security force is on the ground in and around Mecca to secure the hajj and assist pilgrims. He said the number of pilgrims at the hajj, including those from within Saudi Arabia, could reach 2 million.</p> <p>"Everything is prepared," he said. "We have our plans, we have people trained to enforce those plans, but this cannot be done only by infrastructure and by what we do. Pilgrims have their own responsibility, and we hope they comply with the schedule plans and the flow of direction."</p> <p>Health officials said they are also prepared to deal with any injuries or accidents, and have more than 100 ambulances deployed across the hajj sites.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 Harvey's Texas death toll at 18</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_HARVEY_TXOL-">http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_HARVEY_TXOL-</a>

	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/08/30/us-shoots-down-ballistic-missile-in-test-amid-recent-north-korean-provocations.html">?SITE=AP&amp;SECTION=HOME&amp;TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&amp;CTIME=2017-08-30-05-46-34</a>
GIST	<p>HOUSTON (AP) -- The latest weather forecast delivered hope to Houston after five days of torrential rain submerged the nation's fourth-largest city: Less than an inch of rain and perhaps even sunshine.</p> <p>But the dangers remain far from over Wednesday. With at least 18 dead and 13,000 people rescued in the Houston area and surrounding cities and counties in Southeast Texas, others were still trying to escape from their inundated homes. Weakened levees were in danger of failing and a less-ferocious but still potent Harvey returned to shore, making landfall in southwestern Louisiana.</p> <p>The situation was dire early Wednesday in Port Arthur, Texas, near the Louisiana border, where homes were starting to fill with rising floodwaters and residents were unsure of how to evacuate the city, KFDM-TV reported. Jefferson County Sheriff Zena Stephens said county resources could not get to Port Arthur because of the flooding.</p> <p>Port Arthur Mayor Derrick Freeman said on his Facebook page that the "city is underwater right now but we are coming!" He also urged residents to get to higher ground and to avoid becoming trapped in attics.</p> <p>Authorities expected the human toll to continue to mount, both in deaths and in the tens of thousands of people made homeless by the catastrophic storm that is now the heaviest tropical downpour in U.S. history. In all, more than 17,000 people have sought refuge in Texas shelters, and that number seemed certain to increase, the American Red Cross said.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>08/30 MDA: ballistic missile shot down in test</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/08/30/us-shoots-down-ballistic-missile-in-test-amid-recent-north-korean-provocations.html">http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/08/30/us-shoots-down-ballistic-missile-in-test-amid-recent-north-korean-provocations.html</a>
GIST	<p>The U.S. Missile Defense Agency announced Wednesday that it successfully shot down a medium-range ballistic missile off the coast of Hawaii in a new test of its missile defense system at sea.</p> <p>The USS John Paul Jones, a guided-missile destroyer successfully launched an SM-6 interceptor missile to shoot down the target.</p> <p>This test comes after a previous <u>failed test</u> in June from the same warship.</p> <p>“We are working closely with the fleet to develop this important new capability, and this was a key milestone in giving our Aegis BMD ships an enhanced capability to defeat ballistic missiles in their terminal phase,” MDA Director Lt. Gen. Sam Greaves said in a statement.</p> <p>“We will continue developing ballistic missile defense technologies to stay ahead of the threat as it evolves.”</p> <p>The ship detected and tracked a target missile launched from Kauai, Hawaii, "with its onboard AN/SPY-1 radar, and onboard SM-6 missiles executed the intercept," the statement read.</p> <p>The test comes after North Korea fired a ballistic missile from its capital Pyongyang that flew over Japan before plunging into the northern Pacific Ocean on Tuesday, an aggressive test-flight over the territory of a close U.S. ally that sends a clear message of defiance as Washington and Seoul conduct war games nearby.</p> <p>Seoul’s Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missile traveled around 1,677 miles and reached a maximum height of 341 miles as it flew over the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 State Dept. exposes NKorea prison camps</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/state-department-report-exposes-north-korean-prison-camps/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/state-department-report-exposes-north-korean-prison-camps/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>As North Korea continues its provocative missile tests, the State Department is highlighting the nation's infamous prison camps and their atrocious living conditions.</p> <p>"Induced starvation is common among prisoners, who are driven to catch and eat rodents, frogs, and snakes," says a State Department document, in reference to one of the camps.</p> <p>The fact sheet outlines instances of guards beating prisoners, who they are taught not to view as humans, to death. Death is also rampant from malnutrition: a former camp guard says he saw 1,500 to 2,000 prisoners die yearly because of no access to food. In the document, prisoners are described as "walking skeletons," "dwarfs" and "cripples." Work consists of intensive labor including coal mining and cement making.</p> <p>The State Department also says that unconfirmed reports indicate that prisoners may be helping construct a nuclear test site. Some camps keep long-term prisoners in solitary confinement.</p> <p>The people in these camps are accused of speaking poorly of the regime, getting involved in anti-government activity or not being productive in their jobs. They are seen as enemies of the state.</p> <p>One of the camps -- Yodok -- is more than six times the size of Manhattan. It stretches approximately 145 square miles in area, and is reportedly surrounded by an electrified fence and barbed wire reaching up 10 to 14 feet. The document says the camp is patrolled by dogs and 1,000 heavily-armed guards.</p> <p>The State Department first published these profiles of six North Korean prison camps in 2014 as part of Human Rights Day. The department has since moved the information to another portion of their website and maintains that the report, based on reports from non-governmental organizations, defectors, and the UN, is still accurate.</p> <p>About 200,000 people are in the prison camps and 400,000 have died during imprisonment, <u>according to reports</u> from Amnesty International and the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea. North Korea has a population of over 25 million and these camps are believed to have been in existence since the 1950s.</p> <p>An American citizen, Otto Warmbier, <u>died several days after being released from a North Korean prison camp</u> in June. Three other Americans remain in custody in the country.</p> <p>Amid the missile and nuclear tests that have rattled the international community, North Korea's prison camp system is reportedly growing.</p> <p>"Satellite imagery of North Korea's network of political prison camps show its government is continuing to maintain, and even invest, in these repressive facilities," writes Amnesty international in their report last year. "These camps constitute the cornerstone of the country's large infrastructure dedicated to political repression and social control that enables widespread and systematic human rights abuses."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 Houston opens more shelters for evacuees</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/harvey-flooding-houston-adds-more-shelters-evacuees-greg-abbott/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/harvey-flooding-houston-adds-more-shelters-evacuees-greg-abbott/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Two more shelters were cleared to open Tuesday in Houston as the George R. Brown Convention Center reached nearly <u>double its capacity</u>, Gov. Greg Abbott told CBS News.</p> <p>Abbott said the Toyota Center -- located just one block from the George R. Brown Convention Center -- and the NRG Center, also known as the Astrodome, were given the go-ahead to take in evacuees.</p>



	<p>"We don't know how large it will grow, but we are prepared to provide all of the accommodation that is needed," Abbott told CBS News' Elaine Quijano.</p> <p>The NRG Center opened Tuesday night. At least 10 buses pulled up just before midnight. Those in wheelchairs entered first, followed by the first of what officials said could be up to 2,000 people by sunrise Wednesday. The evacuees brought to the NRG Center came from other parts of the metro area than the ones in the convention center.</p> <p>The Toyota Center opened, as well.</p> <p>Abbott said the accommodations were not open right away because he "would assume" the need wasn't anticipated, as the storm grew faster than expected.</p> <p>The official capacity of the George R. Brown Convention Center is 5,000, but more than 9,000 evacuees were there Tuesday night.</p> <p>The number of evacuees is expected to rise with the town of Dickinson issuing a mandatory evacuation order Monday afternoon. Officials from Brazoria County, to the south and southwest of Houston city center, also told residents near Columbia Lakes to leave immediately on Tuesday morning because a levee had been breached.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 South Asia summer floods killed 1200</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://time.com/4921340/south-asia-floods-india-mumbai-bangladesh-nepal/?xid=homepage">http://time.com/4921340/south-asia-floods-india-mumbai-bangladesh-nepal/?xid=homepage</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Severe flooding across South Asia has caused at least 1,200 deaths this summer, aid workers say, with huge swaths of the region still inundated as monsoon rains continue.</p> <p>The death toll continues to rise amid concerns that disease and food insecurity could claim even more lives, according to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Most recorded deaths were in India, but many also died in neighboring Bangladesh and Nepal.</p> <p>A spokesperson for the IFRC tells TIME that nearly a million houses have been damaged or destroyed in the three most affected countries. The U.N. <u>estimates</u> that more than 41 million people have been affected by the downpour. The monsoon season typically lasts from June to September.</p> <p>Poor areas of Nepal have been particularly hard-hit; more than 210,000 homes have been damaged or destroyed by floods or landslides, and 143 people have died. In Bangladesh, roughly 8.6 million were affected, 142 died and enormous areas of farmland suffered damage, the IFRC said.</p> <p>About a third of the country has been submerged by this year's rains, <u>according</u> to the <i>New York Times</i>.</p> <p>In India, the flooding has affected more than 30 million people, while the financial capital Mumbai is reportedly paralyzed by the waters. The <i>Times</i> reports that schools were shut Tuesday and transportation ground to a near standstill.</p> <p>IFRC spokesperson Antony Balmain tells TIME that the flooding has heightened the risk of diarrhea, dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and other diseases.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Chicago police reforms w/court role</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/chicago-changes-course-wants-police-reforms-court-role-n797276">https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/chicago-changes-course-wants-police-reforms-court-role-n797276</a>

<b>GIST</b>	<p>CHICAGO — The city of Chicago changed course Tuesday and said it now wants to carry out far-reaching reforms of its police under strict federal court supervision, abandoning a draft deal on reforms with the Trump administration that envisioned no court role.</p> <p>The new approach led to the unusual sight of Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan at a joint news conference to announce that Madigan — with the mayor's full support — had just sued the city seeking court oversight of the beleaguered police force.</p> <p>The 35-page lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Chicago requests extensive judicial oversight, including an independent court-appointed monitor who would report regularly to a judge about whether the city was meeting reform benchmarks.</p> <p>The legal action kills the draft plan negotiated over months between Chicago and the U.S. Justice Department. That agreement drew sharp criticism from community activists, who said transforming city's 12,000-officer force couldn't possibly succeed without court scrutiny.</p> <p>Activists also blasted Emanuel for cutting a deal with U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, who has expressed reservations about taking police-reform plans to judges to make them legally binding in the form of a consent decree. He has said they can unfairly malign good officers.</p> <p>Emanuel said Tuesday he would have preferred to work with the Justice Department, but that that was impossible because the Trump administration abandoned the Obama administration's standard practice of taking police reform plans to a judge.</p> <p>Madigan said the state of Illinois was "stepping into the shoes of the Department of Justice ... shoes that the DOJ has abandoned."</p> <p>The president of Chicago's police union, Kevin Graham, criticized the legal action, saying in a Tuesday statement that "a consent decree is a potential catastrophe for Chicago." He said court oversight would make it harder for officers to do their jobs and keep crime under control.</p> <p>A separate lawsuit filed in June on behalf of community activist groups, including Black Lives Matter, also turned up political pressure on Emanuel. It also sought to scuttle the draft deal with Department of Justice, saying the absence of a strong court role was its fatal flaw.</p> <p>A lead attorney in that suit, Craig Futterman, applauded Madigan on Tuesday. But he said city attorneys were still resistant to the idea that community-based groups like the ones he represents should have a say in what a court-enforced reform plan should look like.</p> <p>"People affected by police abuse have to have a formal role and the mayor and his lawyers are continuing to say they're not interested," he said.</p> <p>A damning Justice Department report released January this year in the waning days of the Obama administration found deep-rooted civil rights violations by Chicago police, including racial bias and a tendency to use excessive force.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 US spies hard time figuring NKorea</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/news/north-korea/why-it-s-so-hard-u-s-spies-figure-out-n797171">https://www.nbcnews.com/news/north-korea/why-it-s-so-hard-u-s-spies-figure-out-n797171</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>WASHINGTON — When North Korea launched a ballistic missile over Japan Monday, the \$80 billion American intelligence-gathering apparatus had only hours of warning, U.S. officials told NBC News.</p> <p><u>It was the latest</u> in a long history of apparent surprises by the rogue regime. Lately, the North Koreans have outpaced U.S. estimates in their progress on nuclear missiles. In December 2011, the U.S. was</p>

unaware for more than 50 hours that longtime leader Kim Jong Il had died — learning the news only after it was announced on North Korean TV. In 2010, the North Koreans showed an American expert a huge new uranium enrichment plant about which the world had known nothing.

Why can't the U.S. military and intelligence agencies do a better job of ferreting out secrets from North Korea?

Because, current and former intelligence officials say, North Korea is the ultimate nightmare of an intelligence target: A brutal police state with limited internet usage occupying mountainous terrain that lends itself to secret tunnels.

"It is one of the hardest, if not the hardest, collection nation that we have to collect against," said Daniel Coats, the director of national intelligence, to Congress in May.

And it's getting harder. U.S. officials told NBC News that North Korea has taken steps in recent months to disguise their missile-related activities, including fueling rockets inside structures, outside of aerial view. There are three basic ways the U.S. gathers most of its foreign intelligence: collecting information from human spies; intercepting electronic communications; and observing what's happening on the ground, mainly with satellites.

All of those things are hugely problematic when it comes to North Korea.

**The people problem.** North Korea is one of the world's most starkly authoritarian countries, a place where criticizing the Supreme Leader can land one's whole family in a concentration camp. Russia and China are "an open book" compared to North Korea, said Bruce Klingner, a former CIA analyst now at the Heritage Foundation.

There is no U.S. embassy in North Korea and no American business community. So it's not like the CIA can send one of its own case officers in to start gathering information. But even the South Koreans have trouble running agents in the North, Klingner said. The dialect is different and "if you're trying to get access to highly classified things, you're immediately suspicious."

**The internet problem.** The National Security Agency, which hacks computers and intercepts email, has had some success pulling bits and bytes out of North Korea, former officials say, but North Korea is much less forgiving than most of its targets. That's because most of the country is not connected to the internet and few people have cellphones. To the extent that the regime communicates electronically, it has made increasing use of encryption, experts say.

"If you look at that satellite picture [of Asia] of the lights at night from the satellite, there is one dark area with no lights on, and that is North Korea," Coats told Congress. "Their broadband is extremely limited. So using that as an access to collection — we get very limited results."

**The imagery problem.** Much of what the U.S. knows about North Korean military and nuclear activity it learns from satellites observing what is happening below. The official name for that is "Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance," shorthanded as ISR. North Korean officials know that, which is why they have built one of the world's most sophisticated array of tunnels to hide their stuff. They are aided by their mountainous terrain, which makes overhead observation more difficult. It is easier to spot and assess activity over an expanse of plains.

"They can store these launchers and missiles in tunnels and move them at night, then set them up with a tent over it," said David Albright, a nuclear weapons expert and founder of the Washington-based Institute for Science and International Security.

"We do not have consistent ISR capabilities," Coats told Congress. "And so there are gaps. The North Koreans know about these."

HEADLINE	08/30 Harvey's damages rising by the hour
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-08-30/-apocalyptic-flooding-has-harvey-s-damages-rising-by-the-hour">https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-08-30/-apocalyptic-flooding-has-harvey-s-damages-rising-by-the-hour</a>
GIST	<p>On Tuesday morning, disaster analyst Chuck Watson had pegged \$42 billion as a <u>reasonable estimate</u> for the cost of destruction Tropical Storm Harvey would leave in its wake. By the end of the day, he'd added another \$10 billion.</p> <p>Harvey's initial blast along the Texas coast as a Category 4 hurricane was bad enough, sending gasoline prices surging and crude futures plunging as refineries shut. Then came the torrential rains and the collapse of levees, dams and drains. That combination has analysts raising damage estimates by the hour and could easily push the catastrophe above the rank of Superstorm Sandy, the second costliest weather disaster in U.S. history.</p> <p>"We're on the verge of having cascading failures," said Watson, a Savannah, Georgia-based disaster modeler with Enki Research. "It is conceivable that we could get into the \$60 to \$80 billion range without that much effort."</p> <p>What's more, Harvey is threatening Louisiana, including New Orleans, which was <u>devastated</u> by Katrina in 2005. That hurricane killed at least 1,800 and caused \$160 billion in damage. Sandy, which slammed into New York and New Jersey in 2012, claimed 147 lives along its path from the Caribbean, including 72 in the U.S. The damage was about \$70.2 billion, according to the U.S. <u>National Centers for Environmental Information</u> in Asheville, North Carolina.</p> <p>The death toll from Harvey had <u>reached</u> at least 15 on Tuesday, according to the Austin American-Statesman newspaper. The Washington Post cited authorities as saying at least 22 people had been confirmed dead. The storm made landfall between Port Aransas and Port O'Connor in Texas on Friday, stalled out further inland over the weekend and is now trekking eastward along the edge of the Gulf Coast.</p> <p>"Harvey aligned perfectly to bring intense rain bands over Houston," said James Done, a project scientist and meteorologist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado. As it drifted along the coast Monday and Tuesday, it also "perfectly aligned for Houston to get the peak rainfall."</p> <p>Harvey also created a situation where Gulf of Mexico waters have kept drumming hard up against the coastline, preventing rain water from running off into the sea and backing everything up for miles around.</p> <p>The ferocious arrival was tempered by high-pressure systems across the U.S., including a large one that pushed temperatures in California beyond 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 Celsius), said Phil Klotzbach, a hurricane researcher at Colorado State University. Harvey became "a pebble in stagnant stream."</p> <p>Predictions were that some areas east of Houston would witness 50 inches or more of rain by the time Harvey moved off into the central U.S. As of 3:29 p.m. local time Tuesday, the gauge at Mont Belvieu, east of the city, showed 51.88 inches had fallen since the start of the storm. That may be the most in recorded history for a tropical cyclone in the contiguous U.S., breaking a mark also set in Texas back in 1978.</p> <p>The record for all 50 states in such a storm was set in 1950 in Hawaii -- 52 inches.</p> <p>Harvey's deluge was made all the worse because the ground was already saturated by heavy rainfall earlier in the season. "We have had roughly a year's worth of rain in the last three months," said Wendy Wong, a <u>National Weather Service</u> meteorologist in Dickinson, Texas, a city that was evacuated.</p> <p>Watson said disaster models just aren't calibrated for a thing like Harvey. For instance, a typical scenario will assume infrastructure like dams, levees and drainage system will fail when stress rates reach 80 to 90</p>

percent. “We are seeing failures at 60 percent,” he said.

The pressure on the Addicks and Barker reservoirs west of Houston spurred the Army Corps of Engineers to release water, which flooded neighborhoods that had been dry before. Now such deliberate flooding should be more calculated, Watson said.

“We’re starting to get into the apocalyptic -- this is what we don’t want to have happen.”

Now, New Orleans and the rest of coastal Louisiana are feeling the brunt of Harvey’s soaking rains, threatening yet another major U.S. refining center. The hurricane center said 5 to 10 inches could fall across eastern Louisiana, including New Orleans. Mississippi, Arkansas and Alabama could soon get as much as 8 inches.

The storm likely shut as much as 3.36 million barrels a day of refining capacity in Texas due to flooding and port closures, said Jenna Delaney, senior analyst at PIRA Energy Group. Buffalo Gas Plant at Stanton, Texas, reduced sale of natural gas liquids by 58 percent as fractionator plants in Houston were closed, while Targa Resources Corp. said damage to its facilities is minimal so far.

The infrastructure in New Orleans, “can barely keep up,” Done said. “New Orleans is in a very precarious situation.”

The forecast calls for the storm to continue into the central U.S., arriving over Kentucky as a tropical depression Saturday. And even then, Houston won’t be free from threats.

Rainfall over the state will eventually need to make its way into the Gulf, which means several more pulses of water could be coming the city’s way, Watson said.

“There is another train that is heading toward Houston,” Watson said. “Behind every one of these dollar signs is a family that doesn’t have a house anymore.”

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Humanitarian efforts underway in Houston</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2017/08/29/humanitarian-efforts-aim-minimize-harveys-misery/613124001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2017/08/29/humanitarian-efforts-aim-minimize-harveys-misery/613124001/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>From good Samaritan Cajuns to pet lovers in Austin with pickup trucks and motorized canoes, humanitarian efforts are underway in Houston and beyond to minimize the misery of flooding from Tropical Storm Harvey.</p> <p>Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez this week <u>called upon</u> anyone with a "high-water, safe boat or vehicle" to pitch in — and like clockwork the boats arrived. Hundreds of boatmen from around the region, as well as others from the “Cajun Navy,” have been traversing the flooded streets of Houston for days.</p> <p>Jon Bridgers, who founded the Cajun Navy’s <u>Facebook page</u>, told the Houston Chronicle that another squad of rescuers from Louisiana was en route Tuesday.</p> <p>Aid groups, accustomed to widespread disaster declarations, expected the Harvey relief effort to be among their biggest ever.</p> <p>The Salvation Army of Georgia said its Harvey intervention would be the “<u>largest and longest emergency response</u>” in the history of the organization. The group is deployed in nearby Victoria, Texas.</p> <p>Southern Baptist Disaster Relief said it <u>began sending teams</u> to Texas before Harvey made landfall on Friday and will likely be in Houston "for months to come." The group said it is assisting up to 60,000 people displaced by the flooding by providing hot meals, laundry services, hot showers and</p>

companionship. It also will aid Houstonians return to their homes by helping clear land, remove fallen trees and restore flooded homes.

The American Red Cross' Brad Kieserman said the group was just at the beginning of "a massive relief effort" in Houston.

The Red Cross said more than 80 tractor-trailer loads of cots, blankets, ready-to-eat meals and other supplies were on the ground in Texas, with shelter supplies in place for more than 34,000 people. Supplies for another 18,000 were en route.

Aid across the region is flowing in unlikely ways.

Do-it-yourself fundraising efforts, facilitated by sites like GoFundMe, are sprouting. By late Tuesday afternoon, a crowdfunding effort begun Sunday to help replace the personal belongings of students at KIPP Houston High School had not only raised more than \$12,000 of its \$20,000 goal — it was also trending on the website.

Elsewhere, a YouCaring effort to raise \$3 million for victims of Harvey had raised \$2 million.

Austin Pets Alive, based in the Texas capital, said Tuesday that it had saved about 430 animals from Harvey's floodwaters with the help of other pet welfare organizations. The groups expect to rescue 1,000 pets by week's end.

Mary Mattia, the Austin group's communications director, said Tuesday she was leading a caravan with pet supplies and transport kennels headed back to Houston. She was behind the wheel of a "big Texas pickup truck with a canoe in the back," she said, leading four other vehicles.

One of her team pulled a motorized canoe and another member had stopped at Walmart to pick up a few rubber boats, she said. "We're going to figure it out for the animals," Mattia said.

Another effort started on GoFundMe had raised about \$114,000 by Tuesday — more than four times its goal — to aid 4 Paws Farm, a pet rescue operation north of Houston.

Though not technically a charity, the vacation rental website Airbnb said Tuesday that it had expanded its "Disaster Response Program" to provide free temporary accommodations to people in the storm's path.

"We encourage everyone who has a room to spare to consider listing their space through this program," Kellie Bentz, Airbnb's head of Global Disaster Response and Relief, told USA TODAY.

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HEADLINE	<b>08/29 Texas concern: price gouging</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2017/08/29/hurricane-harvey-price-gouging-concern-texas/614886001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2017/08/29/hurricane-harvey-price-gouging-concern-texas/614886001/</a>
GIST	<p>CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — As Hurricane Harvey dissipated and Corpus Christi tried to flow into normalcy last weekend, some customers flocked to an open Wingstop location on the city's Southside. But after ordering a meal, some customers noticed <u>they were charged incorrectly</u>.</p> <p>Some posted their receipts to the company's Facebook page, saying they were victims of price gouging. Most of the people were charged at for a "catering tray" they did not order, according to some posts and comments.</p> <p>Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has issued warnings about price gouging to businesses in times of disaster.</p>

	<p>According to a statement on the Attorney General's website, price gouging is illegal and is defined as "selling or leasing fuel, food, medicine or another necessity at an exorbitant or excessive price."</p> <p>Kelly Trevino, regional director of the Better Business Bureau, said customers should be wary of price gouging not only on food but on water and fuel.</p> <p>"When you have that issue of price gouging, bring that up right then with the provider," she said. "Let them know you know price gouging is illegal."</p> <p>Trevino said an example of price gouging would be if a bottled water is normally \$1 but customers are finding that same bottle of water for \$4 or \$5.</p> <p>Paxton also noted there were high gasoline prices that prompted complaints of price gouging.</p> <p>"You might see a jump at the pump," Trevino said, adding that some prices may be slightly higher than before the storm due to work done to bring the fuel here.</p> <p>But prices like \$8 a gallon for fuel would be considered price gouging.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Military tested new nuclear bomb in Aug.</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/US-military-tested-second/2017/08/29/id/810562/">http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/US-military-tested-second/2017/08/29/id/810562/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The U.S. military in early August held a second test of its B61-12 gravity nuclear bombs at Tonopah Test Range in Nevada, the National Nuclear Security Administration said in a statement Monday.</p> <p>"The non-nuclear test assemblies, which were dropped from an F-15E based at Nellis Air Force Base, evaluated the weapon's non-nuclear functions and the aircraft's capability to deliver the weapon," said the NNSA.</p> <p>President Donald Trump has called for the U.S. to "greatly strengthen and expand its nuclear capability until such time as the world comes to its senses regarding nukes," a message he campaigned on and one he has reiterated during the first eight months of his presidency.</p> <p>The B61-12 bomb replaces older versions in the nation's nuclear arsenal, and is considered "the most dangerous nuclear bomb ever produced." The bomb is more accurate than ever, and its yield can be adjusted from a high of 50,000 tons of TNT equivalent to a low of 300 tons.</p> <p>The test comes as tensions with North Korea continue to escalate. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's military launched a missile over Japan Tuesday, and Trump said, "all options are on the table" in terms of a U.S. response.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Louisiana now faces Harvey</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.newsmax.com/Headline/harvey-heads-toward-louisiana/2017/08/29/id/810519/">http://www.newsmax.com/Headline/harvey-heads-toward-louisiana/2017/08/29/id/810519/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Twelve years to the day after Hurricane Katrina slammed into the Gulf Coast, another deadly storm forced the rescue of hundreds of people from floodwaters in southwestern Louisiana and prompted New Orleans to shut down its schools and other key institutions as a precaution.</p> <p>Tropical Storm Harvey flooded neighborhoods overnight with chest-deep water in the Lake Charles area, near the Texas line, although water abated in some places Tuesday as rain slackened.</p> <p>In New Orleans, Mayor Mitch Landrieu urged residents to stay home Tuesday because of the threat of</p>

potential flooding. Many appeared to be heeding his call.

Meanwhile, Gov. John Bel Edwards said Louisiana is offering to shelter storm victims from Texas.

"We have offered to stand up shelters specifically for individuals who would be transported out of Texas, so that they could be housed in shelters in Louisiana, particularly in north Louisiana, in the Shreveport area," he said at a news conference in Baton Rouge. Edwards said he expects Texas officials to decide within 48 hours whether to accept the offer.

Later, in Lake Charles, Edwards urged people to remain alert but said the state is responding well to less severe conditions in its own borders.

"You never know what Mother Nature is going to throw at us, but with the people in this room, I'm confident we can handle it," he told local and state officials.

Some New Orleans neighborhoods flooded earlier this month during a deluge that exposed problems with the city's pump and drainage system. On Tuesday, rains flooded a few of the city's streets.

The city's public schools were closed, along with six universities and a medical school. A ceremony and march in New Orleans to commemorate the deadly 2005 storm was postponed until Sunday.

About 500 people were evacuated in southwest Louisiana's most populous parish overnight, as a heavy band of rain pushed waterways out of their banks, Calcasieu Parish spokesman Tom Hofer said. He said as many as 5,000 parish residents are affected by the flooding, but not all of those people have flooded homes. Some are just cut off by flooded roads.

A lull in the heavy rains allowed water to recede Tuesday morning, enabling some who fled their homes to return, survey damage and remove possessions.

National Weather Service meteorologists said Tuesday that officials expect Harvey will make another landfall in Cameron Parish early Wednesday, after hitting Texas and meandering back into the Gulf of Mexico.

As much as 6 to 12 more inches of rain (15 to 30 centimeters) could fall in western Louisiana.

"We are starting to get down to the end of the tunnel of all this rain," National Weather Service meteorologist Roger Erickson said.

Harvey is projected to bring gusts up to 50 mph (80 kph) in coastal areas and gusts of up to 40 mph (65 kph) in Lake Charles and along the Interstate 10 corridor.

Erickson warned that some coastal rivers won't be able to drain rains effectively because Harvey's winds are pushing storm surge into coastal waters, aggravating flooding of areas that have already received more than 20 inches (51 centimeters) of rain.

Images of flood devastation in Houston revived painful memories for survivors of Hurricane Katrina, which made landfall in the Gulf Coast on Aug. 29, 2005.

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HEADLINE	<b>08/29 NKorea leader urges more launches</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/1st-nkorea-fires-missile-japan-aggressive-test-49482586">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/1st-nkorea-fires-missile-japan-aggressive-test-49482586</a>
GIST	North Korean leader Kim Jong Un called for more weapons launches targeting the Pacific Ocean to advance his country's ability to contain Guam, state media said Wednesday, a day after Pyongyang for the



	<p>first time flew a ballistic missile designed to carry a nuclear payload over Japan.</p> <p>Tuesday's aggressive missile launch — likely the longest ever from <u>North Korea</u> — over a close U.S. ally sends a clear message of defiance as Washington and Seoul conduct annual military drills. The Korean Central News Agency said the launch was a "muscle-flexing" countermeasure to the Ulchi Freedom Guardian joint exercises that conclude Thursday. Pyongyang views the drills as invasion rehearsals and often conducts weapons tests and escalates its rhetoric when they are held.</p> <p>The KCNA report said the missile was an intermediate-range Hwasong-12, which the North first successfully tested in May and threatened to fire into waters near Guam earlier this month.</p> <p>Kim expressed "great satisfaction" over the launch that he called a "meaningful prelude" to containing Guam and said North Korea would continue to watch the U.S. demeanor before it decides future actions, KCNA said. The U.S. territory is home to key U.S. military bases that North Korea finds threatening.</p> <p>Kim also said it's "necessary to positively push forward the work for putting the strategic force on a modern basis by conducting more ballistic rocket launching drills with the Pacific as a target in the future."</p> <p>The launch seemed designed to show that North Korea can back up a threat to target Guam, if it chooses to do so, while also establishing a potentially dangerous precedent that could see future missiles flying over Japan.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 China: hopes India can 'learn lessons'</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/china-hopes-india-learns-lesson-border-standoff-49504863?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/china-hopes-india-learns-lesson-border-standoff-49504863?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>China's foreign minister said Wednesday he hopes India can "learn lessons" from a recently resolved border standoff and avoid such occurrences in the future, as the leaders of the two Asian giants prepare to meet next week for a summit in southeastern China.</p> <p>Wang Yi's remarks came after the countries agreed Monday to pull back their troops from a disputed Himalayan plateau where China, India and Bhutan meet.</p> <p>"We're hoping that their side will learn lessons from this incident and prevent some of the things from happening again. We hope that through the efforts of both sides we will maintain healthy and stable relations," Wang said.</p> <p>Neither side has offered details of how the standoff was resolved, and China says it could resume road construction that sparked the confrontation after Indian troops moved in to block the work.</p> <p>The resolution appeared to have been timed to prevent the most serious confrontation between the nuclear-armed neighbors in decades from overshadowing of a summit in the city of Xiamen next week that Chinese President <a href="#">Xi Jinping</a> and Indian Prime Minister <a href="#">Narendra Modi</a> are set to attend. The leaders of Russia, Brazil and <a href="#">South Africa</a> are also due to attend the annual meeting of the BRICS grouping of emerging economies.</p> <p>Both India and China said their troops would continue to patrol in the Doklam area as they did before the face-off.</p> <p>Foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said Tuesday that China would make its plans according to the situation on the ground and would continue to uphold its territorial integrity.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>08/30 China recommits to sanctions on NKorea</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/latest-french-leader-urges-tough-stance-nkorea-49485272">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/latest-french-leader-urges-tough-stance-nkorea-49485272</a>
GIST	<p>Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi says his country will "fully and completely" abide by U.N. <u>Security Council</u> sanctions resolutions on North Korea.</p> <p>Wang told reporters Wednesday China would work with other members of the council on how best to react to North Korea's launch of a ballistic missile over Japan on Tuesday.</p> <p>He says, "We will make a necessary response."</p> <p>While acknowledging long-standing ties between the Pyongyang and Beijing, Wang says China was compelled to act to guard against further instability. China accounts for around 90 percent of North Korea's foreign trade and has provided limited diplomatic cover for its actions, despite growing increasingly frustrated at continued provocations.</p> <p>The latest sanctions hit Chinese businesses hard by way of a ban on North Korean exports of coal, iron, lead and seafood products, together worth over \$1 billion for a country with total exports valued at just \$3 billion last year.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>08/30 Qatar crisis shakes East Africa</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/qatar-crisis-shakes-east-africa-home-gulf-militaries-49506504">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/qatar-crisis-shakes-east-africa-home-gulf-militaries-49506504</a>
GIST	<p>Though far-removed from the Gulf, East Africa has been shaken by the Arab diplomatic crisis gripping Qatar.</p> <p>In recent years both Qatar and the other energy-rich nations arrayed against it have made inroads in the Horn of Africa by establishing military bases, managing ports and showering friendly nations with foreign aid.</p> <p>As the rivalry heats up, with <u>Saudi Arabia</u>, Egypt, the <u>United Arab Emirates</u> and Bahrain seeking to isolate Qatar, East African nations stand to gain or lose from an increasingly fierce competition for influence. And with Saudi Arabia and its allies mired in a war just across the Red Sea in Yemen, the area has never had more strategic value.</p> <p>"I think we're seeing a game of geopolitical chess being played out," said Kristian Coates Ulrichsen, a research fellow at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University.</p> <p><b>MILITARY EXPANSION</b></p> <p>The importance of the Horn of Africa to Gulf nations can be seen with just a glance at a map. The Horn's shoreline comes as close as 30 kilometers (18.5 miles) to Yemen at the Bab el-Mandeb straight, a crucial chokepoint at sea for oil tankers heading from the Gulf to Europe.</p> <p>For years, the shores of East Africa provided a crucial point for smugglers to reach Yemen, as well as a target-rich hunting ground for pirates. Securing the area has taken on new importance for Gulf countries since March 2015, when a Saudi-led coalition launched its war against Shiite rebels and their allies who hold Yemen's capital.</p> <p>Since the conflict began, the United Arab Emirates and others have established military bases in East Africa . In Eritrea, the UAE has a base at the port in Assab. Another Emirati military base will be built in Somalia's breakaway northern territory of Somaliland.</p> <p>"The UAE is very keen to show that it's a provider of security, not just a consumer of security," Ulrichsen</p>

said.

Saudi Arabia meanwhile has discussed putting its own base in tiny Djibouti, already home to an under-construction Chinese military base and a U.S. base that launches drone missions over Somalia and Yemen. Analysts believe all these Gulf military installations will become permanent features in East Africa.

"They are not only just momentarily engaging in the Horn and its countries, but they are becoming long-term strategic actors in the whole region," said Umer Karim, a researcher at the University of Birmingham.

#### JOCKEYING FOR POSITION IN SOMALIA

In Somalia, whose first civilian government after decades of lawlessness is fighting against the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab militant group, Gulf countries loom large.

Saudi Arabia is the Somali government's biggest benefactor, while the UAE has trained the country's military and launched a high-profile aid appeal this year. Somalia has meanwhile allowed Qatari aircraft to increasingly fly through its airspace as Arab nations have closed theirs off.

Gulf states are believed to have taken sides in lawmakers' February election of Somali President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, which was marked by allegations of massive bribery. Mohamed appointed a former reporter of the Qatar-funded satellite news channel Al-Jazeera Arabic as his chief of staff. The UAE backed a different candidate.

Meanwhile, Turkey soon will open an overseas military base in Mogadishu. Its only other overseas base is in Qatar, which Ankara has backed amid the boycott.

"You couldn't find any place more strategic for the Arab powers than Somalia," said Rashid Abdi, the Horn of Africa project director for the International Crisis Group. "That explains the intensity of these powers' interest in Somalia."

#### BRINGING ERITREA OUT OF THE COLD

For Eritrea, the Qatar diplomatic dispute actually could be a good thing.

Ruled by an autocratic and repressive president, Eritrea has seen tens of thousands of its citizens flee mandatory national conscription that can last over a decade, something rights groups say amounts to slavery. The former Italian colony routinely ranks last among nations in personal and press freedom.

But when the Gulf crisis began, Qatar removed 400 peacekeepers from a disputed Red Sea island claimed by both Eritrea and Djibouti. Eritrea quickly sent its own troops in to seize it.

Meanwhile, Eritrea hosts the UAE military base at Assab while siding with the Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen. Eritrean leaders likely hope this improves their image.

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HEADLINE	<b>08/30 IOM: Rohingya flee violence in Myanmar</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/18000-rohingya-flee-violence-myanmar-bangladesh-49507461?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/18000-rohingya-flee-violence-myanmar-bangladesh-49507461?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed</a>
GIST	<p>The International Organization for Migration said Wednesday that 18,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled fresh violence in <u>Myanmar</u> and crossed into <u>Bangladesh</u>, with "hundreds and hundreds" stranded in no man's land at the countries' border.</p> <p>Sanjukta Sahany, a spokeswoman for the IOM in Cox's Bazar, on the Bangladesh border with Myanmar, released the latest figures as <u>human rights</u> groups and advocates for the Rohingya say the Myanmar army was retaliating for attacks by Rohingya militants by burning down villages and shooting civilians.</p>

	<p>The Myanmar government blames Rohingya insurgents for the violence, including the arson. The official death toll in the violence was 96 as of Sunday, and the actual number is likely to be higher.</p> <p>A majority of Myanmar's estimated 1 million Rohingya live in the northern part of Rakhine state, where they have faced persecution in the Buddhist-majority country. Last week, Rohingya insurgents launched coordinated attacks against police posts, setting off retaliation by government forces.</p> <p>Sahany said the Rohingya crisis was not an issue between Myanmar and Bangladesh but of international concern.</p> <p>Ali Hossain, Cox's Bazar district's top government official, told The Associated Press that their resources were under huge stress after some 87,000 Rohingya entered Bangladesh since October last year and now another 18,000 in just one week.</p> <p>"I have already informed the government's high-ups about the trouble we are facing here," he said. "This is a very complex situation."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 NKorea: prelude to containing Guam</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/north-korean-leader-kim-jong-calls-recent-missile/story?id=49501295">http://abcnews.go.com/International/north-korean-leader-kim-jong-calls-recent-missile/story?id=49501295</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>North Korean leader <u>Kim Jong Un</u> has said that his country's most recent missile launch is "a meaningful prelude to containing <u>Guam</u>," North Korea's state-run news agency, Korean Central News Agency, reported.</p> <p>On Tuesday morning local time, North Korea launched an intermediate-range missile that flew over Japan before landing in the Pacific Ocean 733 miles east of Cape Erimo, the southernmost point on Hokkaido Island, according to the Japanese government.</p> <p>The South Korean military said the missile, known in North Korea as a Hwasong-12, flew 1,667 miles horizontally and about 310 miles at its top altitude after being launched.</p> <p>The launch spurred an alert from Japan's emergency warning system as the missile passed overhead. Prime Minister <u>Shinzo Abe</u> later addressed the incident, saying Japan was collecting information on the launch and taking "all possible measures to ensure our people's safety."</p> <p>Kim was present to observe the drill, KCNA reported, and photos were released that purport to show the leader watching the test.</p> <p>"He learned in detail about the launch plan, preset flight track and target waters and issued an order to launch the rocket," according to KCNA.</p> <p>According to KCNA, the missile was launched "as a part of the muscle-flexing to counter" ongoing joint U.S.-South Korean military drills.</p> <p>KCNA reported that Kim expressed "great satisfaction over the successful launching."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 NWS: preliminary 51.88" rain breaks record</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/harvey-shatters-us-rainfall-record-tropical-system-national/story?id=49491827">http://abcnews.go.com/US/harvey-shatters-us-rainfall-record-tropical-system-national/story?id=49491827</a>
<b>GIST</b>	Tropical Storm Harvey, which first made landfall Friday as a Category 4 hurricane before weakening into

<p><a href="#">Return to Top</a></p>	<p>a tropical storm that has circled over southeastern Texas for days, has broken the contiguous-U.S. rainfall record for a tropical storm, preliminary data shows, according to the National <u>Weather</u> Service.</p> <p>Breaking the previous mark of 48 inches, Harvey recorded a preliminary 51.88 inches at Cedar Bayou, Texas, about 30 miles from Houston, the NWS reported.</p> <p>The storm, which dropped a foot of rainfall from Galveston, Texas to Beaumont, Texas, overnight, according to ABC News' meteorologists, is not expected to relent just yet.</p> <p>Heavy rain is forecast to continue in the eastern part of the state, where an additional 6 to 12 inches of rain are possible in spots over the next 24 hours.</p> <p>Rain could be heavy at times in Houston, where rescuers are <u>already battling</u> severe flooding, over that same span. An additional 6 inches of rain is possible there.</p> <p>Houston will possibly see an end to the rain by Wednesday afternoon, ABC News meteorologists suggest.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Houston convention shelter double capacity</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/inside-houston-convention-center-harvey-evacuees-double-capacity/story?id=49487937">http://abcnews.go.com/US/inside-houston-convention-center-harvey-evacuees-double-capacity/story?id=49487937</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>After thousands of Hurricane Harvey evacuees streamed in by the busload to Houston's George R. Brown Convention Center, the shelter has now swelled to nearly double its capacity.</p> <p>As of Tuesday afternoon, there were more than 10,000 people living at the convention center in downtown Houston and thousands more are expected.</p> <p>The <u>Red Cross</u> had planned for 5,000 people.</p> <p>With only 5,000 cots, nearly half of the evacuees are sleeping on the cold tile floor of the 2-million-square-foot convention center that includes exhibit halls, meeting rooms, a ballroom and a 3,600-seat amphitheater.</p> <p>Officials are working to ensure enough cots are provided, as well as attempting to reduce the population at the convention center, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner said in a press conference Tuesday evening.</p> <p>The Toyota Center will be used as an additional shelter to help ease the number of people at the convention center, Turner said. Residents seeking shelter will need to go through the George R. Brown Convention Center first, though, Turner said.</p> <p>Even though the conditions are imperfect, those inside are safe, dry and more, importantly, out of the danger zone.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 Houston mayor imposes city curfew</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/houston-police-chief-warns-robbers-dont-houston-caught/story?id=49493765&amp;cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/houston-police-chief-warns-robbers-dont-houston-caught/story?id=49493765&amp;cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner has imposed a mandatory curfew in the city from midnight to 5 a.m. in an effort to prevent potential looting, he announced at a press conference Tuesday evening.</p> <p>The curfew is a "tool to assess the intentions of the people who are out there," Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo said, warning residents to stay off the streets during the curfew unless "absolutely necessary."</p>

	<p>The Houston Police Department is going to stop assisting in search-and-rescue missions to focus on "going after criminals and keeping the good people of Houston safe," Acevedo said.</p> <p>Turner also warned residents of people impersonating police officers going door to door in the Kingwood area, one of the areas hit hardest by flooding, and telling people there that evacuations are now mandatory.</p> <p>Earlier in the day, Acevedo urged potential robbers to stay out of the city, promising to catch any criminals and "seek the fullest prosecution possible available."</p> <p>Armed robbers and looters have been arrested amid the devastation left behind by Hurricane Harvey, Acevedo said.</p> <p>Acevedo said that while Houston police have made over 3,500 rescues since the storm tore through the Houston area this weekend, wiping out homes and forcing evacuations, the department is still operating as a law enforcement agency and will not tolerate people victimizing others.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 Rescuers battle relentless 'waves of rain'</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/rescuers-battle-wave-wave-rain-hurricane-harvey/story?id=49485908&amp;cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/rescuers-battle-wave-wave-rain-hurricane-harvey/story?id=49485908&amp;cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Rescuers are battling through relentless "waves of rain" to try and help survivors of Hurricane Harvey in southeastern Texas, as the death toll from the storm has climbed to nine.</p> <p>Samuel Peña, Houston's fire chief, told "Good Morning America" today that his city is being inundated by "wave after wave after wave of rain" in the aftermath of the Category 4 hurricane and continued tropical storm, complicating rescue efforts.</p> <p>"We're still about 1,000 because as we clear those incidents that are pending, that are in queue, additional calls keep coming in," Peña said about the people still waiting to be rescued.</p> <p>He added that many of the city's roads had become impassable as a result of rising floodwaters. The region is expected to see 50 inches of rain before fall over the area before the week is over, according to ABC News' meteorologists.</p> <p>The Houston Police Department said in a press conference Tuesday that they have conducted 3,500 rescues since the onset of the storm.</p> <p>As emergency responders move through the floodwaters to help survivors, they are encountering devastation and sometimes death.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 Houston police chief blunt, emotional</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/houston-police-chief-blunt-emotional-harvey-49506948">http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/houston-police-chief-blunt-emotional-harvey-49506948</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>In a matter of hours, Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo had warned looters to stay away from his city and then choked back tears as he announced the death of one of his veteran officers.</p> <p>It's that empathetic side mixed with a heavy dose of no-nonsense law-and-order that makes Acevedo so endearing to the communities he has policed over his 30-year career in law enforcement.</p> <p>The Cuban-born Acevedo, who came to the U.S. with his family in 1968, has been on the job in the nation's fourth-largest city for less than a year. He is the city's first Hispanic police chief and regularly</p>

answers questions from reporters in Spanish. Before Harvey elevated his national presence, he was known locally for his active role on social media and his blunt speaking style, which he showcased in his threat to looters.

"So word to the wise: Don't come to Houston," he said Tuesday, "because you're going to be caught. And I guarantee you when you take advantage of people and prey on them in these circumstances, that's despicable behavior and we're all going to push hard to make sure you don't see the sunlight anytime soon."

Acevedo grew up in California, started in law enforcement in East Los Angeles with the California Highway Patrol and rose to chief of that agency. He arrived in Houston last November after nine years as Austin's chief.

His tenure in Austin was marked by efforts to strengthen ties with community groups. He faced criticism for several use-of-force incidents, including the 2015 arrest of a black teacher who was thrown to the ground by a white officer and the fatal shooting of an unarmed, naked 17-year-old.

After the shooting, the police union criticized him for speaking at a news conference while standing with groups such as Black Lives Matter.

In another sign that he is not the typical Texas cop, he has been a vocal critic of the so-called anti-sanctuary cities law that expands police powers to question people who have been detained about their immigration status. He was also critical of recently-enacted laws that allow people to openly carry licensed handguns and carry concealed handguns into colleges buildings and dorms.

On Tuesday, Acevedo vividly laid out the details of how his officer, Sgt. Steve Perez, had lost his life trying to get to work when he became trapped in his patrol car in a flooded highway underpass.

His voice cracking, Acevedo chronicled how Perez left home about 4 a.m. Sunday to get to work, even after the sergeant's wife had urged him to stay home. Harvey's torrential rains had started the previous evening and continued to rage.

"I've got work to do," Perez told his wife, according to the chief.

"He has that in his DNA," Acevedo said.

"He was one of the sweetest people I've met," Acevedo said of Perez, whose death Sunday was two days short of his 61st birthday. "I've only been here nine months, we've got 6,500 employees and I knew who Steve Perez was, because he was a sweet, gentle public servant."

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 Levee breached in Texas</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/epic-catastrophic-flooding-devastates-houston-rainfall-forecast/story?id=49462873">http://abcnews.go.com/US/epic-catastrophic-flooding-devastates-houston-rainfall-forecast/story?id=49462873</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>In an urgent message, officials announced that a levee in a county south of Houston was breached, after days of torrential rain from Hurricane Harvey.</p> <p>"NOTICE: The levee at Columbia Lakes has been breached!! GET OUT NOW!!!" Brazoria County said on Twitter on Tuesday morning.</p> <p>A total of 1 trillion gallons of water have fallen, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner said in a press conference Tuesday evening.</p> <p>The National Weather Service announced Tuesday afternoon that preliminary data indicates the all-time</p>

	<p>record for total rainfall from a tropical system in the continental U.S. was broken in Cedar Bayou, Texas -- about 30 miles from downtown Houston -- at 51.88 inches.</p> <p>If confirmed, the record is .12 inches shy of the record for total rainfall from a tropical storm in the entire U.S., including Hawaii and Alaska.</p> <p>The death toll has climbed to at least eleven in the Lone Star State, amid "epic and catastrophic" flooding since Harvey made landfall on Friday, according to the NWS.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Transgender troops stay pending study</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/mattis-transgender-service-members-continue-serve-pending-month/story?id=49503944&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_headlines_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/mattis-transgender-service-members-continue-serve-pending-month/story?id=49503944&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_headlines_hed</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Tuesday that <u>transgender</u> service members will continue to serve in the military while <u>the Pentagon</u> conducts a study of how to implement <u>President Trump's</u> directive that would ban transgender individuals from serving in the military. A memo signed by President Trump on Friday that reinstated the policy gave Mattis six months to come up with a plan to implement the ban.</p> <p>In a statement released Tuesday night, Mattis said he would establish a panel of experts from within the Defense Department and the Department of <u>Homeland Security</u> to "to provide advice and recommendations on the implementation of the president's direction."</p> <p>"Panel members will bring mature experience, most notably in combat and deployed operations, and seasoned judgment to this task," said Mattis. "The panel will assemble and thoroughly analyze all pertinent data, quantifiable and non-quantifiable."</p> <p>Mattis said he would provide his advice to President Trump on how to implement his policy after the panel came up with recommendations. "In the interim, current policy with respect to currently serving members will remain in place," said Mattis.</p> <p>The move temporarily leaves in place the policy that allows transgender service members to serve openly in the military until the panel concludes its study.</p>
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## Cyber Awareness

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 'Doxxing' emerges as tool in culture wars</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/30/technology/doxxing-protests.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/30/technology/doxxing-protests.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SAN FRANCISCO — Riding a motorized pony and strumming a cigar box ukulele, Dana Cory led a singalong to the tune of "If you're happy and you know it clap your hands."</p> <p>"You're a Nazi and you're fired, it's your fault," she sang. "You were spotted in a mob, now you lost your freaking job. You're a Nazi and you're fired, it's your fault."</p> <p>"All together now!" Ms. Cory, 48, shouted to a cheering crowd in San Francisco's Castro neighborhood on Saturday. They were protesting a rally planned by far-right organizers about a mile away.</p> <p>"Dox a Nazi all day, every day," she said.</p> <p>Online vigilantism has been around since the early days of the internet. So has "doxxing" — originally a slang term among hackers for obtaining and posting private documents about an individual, usually a rival or enemy. To hackers, who prized their anonymity, it was considered a cruel attack.</p>



But doxxing has emerged from subculture websites like 4Chan and Reddit to become something of a mainstream phenomenon since a white supremacist march on Charlottesville, Va., earlier this month.

“Originally it was little black-hat hacker crews who were at war with each other — they would take docs, like documents, from a competing group and then claim they had ‘dox’ on them,” said Gabriella Coleman, a professor at McGill University who wrote a book about the hacker vigilante group Anonymous. “There was this idea that you were veiled and then uncovered.”

Now the online hunt to reveal extremists has raised concerns about unintended consequences, or even collateral damage. A few individuals have been misidentified in recent weeks, including a professor from Arkansas who was wrongly accused of participating in the neo-Nazi march. And some worry that the stigma of being outed as a political extremist can only reinforce that behavior in people who could still be talked out of it.

Doxxing was on the minds of a number of protesters on the streets of San Francisco on Saturday. In the Castro and Mission neighborhoods and Alamo Square, the home of the famous row of houses known as the Painted Ladies, thousands participated in counter-demonstrations to the right-wing rally. There was the energy of a street party — children and dogs joined in, protesters shared baked goods, and the bars nearby were full.

Marla Wilson, 35, of San Francisco, said she was appalled when she saw white supremacists marching so brazenly in Charlottesville. Doxxing, she believed, was an effective way to make people think twice about being so bold with their racism.

“Some of what is happening now will make these white supremacists realize why their grandparents wore hoods,” Ms. Wilson said. “At least then there was shame.”

The ethics — and even the definition — of doxxing is murky. It is the dissemination of often publicly available information. And, some at the protest asked, are you really doxxing a person if he or she is marching on a public street, face revealed and apparently proud? It is not as though they are hiding their identities.

But Tony McAleer, a former white supremacist leader who now runs Life After Hate, a rehabilitation program for neo-Nazis, called doxxing a “a passive aggressive violence.” He said publicizing the names and workplaces of neo-Nazis may offer some level of solace to people outraged by them, but it makes his job more difficult.

“For us, it slows things down. We try to integrate people back to humanity,” Mr. McAleer said. “If isolation and shame is the driver for people joining these types of groups, doxxing certainly isn’t the answer.”

In short, once someone is labeled a Nazi on the internet, they stay a Nazi on the internet.

Internet vigilantism has a checkered history. In April 2013, amateur detectives on Reddit used screen shots of security camera footage to identify two men as being connected to the Boston Marathon bombing. The New York Post put the image on the cover under the headline “Bag Men.”

But the two young men pictured were not the bombers. At one point, Reddit sleuths even set their sights on a student from Brown University, about 60 miles away in Providence, R.I., who was missing. He had nothing to do with the bombing; he had committed suicide.

The next year, doxxing became a tool by in the “GamerGate” controversy, an online dispute purportedly about ethics in video game journalism that became a foundational moment for some of today’s fringe far-right. Mostly male video-game players began to publish personal information — including home address and phone numbers — for women in their community, typically journalists and game designers who they

	<p>said were unfairly politicizing gaming culture.</p> <p>For Ms. Coleman, the real mainstream moment for online vigilantism was in 2015, when an image of a dentist standing over lion he had shot swiftly spread on social media. The lion was Cecil, a well-known conservation icon. Animal lovers seethed. The actress Mia Farrow even posted the dentist’s home address on Twitter.</p> <p>“People went berserk,” Ms. Coleman said. “That, to me, was this interesting turning point where it showed the general public would be willing to jump into the fray.”</p> <p>Charlottesville has made doxxing even more commonplace.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Healthcare cybersecurity ranks low</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.healthcare-informatics.com/news-item/cybersecurity/report-healthcare-cybersecurity-ranks-low-compared-other-major-industries">https://www.healthcare-informatics.com/news-item/cybersecurity/report-healthcare-cybersecurity-ranks-low-compared-other-major-industries</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The healthcare industry ranks among the lowest performing industries in the area of cybersecurity, according to the 2017 U.S. State and Federal Government Cybersecurity Report.</p> <p>In August 2017, SecurityScorecard surveyed 18 industries, including transportation, retail, healthcare and government organizations, to grade the security postures of these industries. The report specifically looks at government organizations, by analyzing and grading the current security postures of 552 local, state, and federal government organizations, each with more than 100 public-facing IP addresses, to determine the strongest and weakest security standards based on security hygiene and security reaction time compared to their peers. Across all industries surveyed by SecurityScorecard, government organizations received one of the lowest security scores, with an overall <u>ranking</u> of 16th out of 18.</p> <p>As far as overall industry rankings, food, entertainment and retail industries ranked the highest as top performers, and education ranked the lowest. Healthcare ranked at 13th out of 18, with a score of 86.5. As a comparison, the food industry received a grade of 89, and education received a grade of 84.</p> <p>“Compared to last year, government has moved from the lowest performing industry, past telecommunications and education. However, this relative improvement still leaves government agencies as the third lowest performing industry when compared to the cybersecurity of 17 other major industries,” the report authors wrote.</p> <p>The study also examined industries by their network security. SecurityScorecard identified potential vulnerabilities in network security by identifying open ports connected to an organization’s network exposed to the Internet and examining whether or not an organization uses best practices such as staying up-to-date with current protocols, or securing network endpoints to ensure external access to internal systems are minimized, according to the study.</p> <p>The study found that healthcare falls among the bottom performers in the category of network security, ranked 11th out of 18. The study authors noted that low scores typically indicate that the organization has an open port making them susceptible to attack- for example, the WannaCry attack that propagated through port 445. “An insecure network is one of the easiest ways for a hacker to obtain access to sensitive data. Examples of network security hacks include exploiting vulnerabilities such as open access points, insecure or misconfigured SSL certificates, or database vulnerabilities and security holes that can stem from the lack of proper security measures. Once a hacker is inside the organization’s network, digital assets can be compromised or stolen outright, throwing operations into chaos,” the study authors wrote.</p> <p>Looking at application security, healthcare ranked slightly better, at 9th out of 18. The study authors note that a strong score in this area indicates that organizations are likely using web application firewalls, which often protect against DDoS attacks and the OWASP Top 10. Whereas, weaker scores in this category</p>

indicate that old website, php applications, and the like with multiple Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVEs) are being used and are open to the OWASP Top 10 Most Critical Web Application Security Risks.

The study also ranked industries by Cubit Score. The Cubit module reveals which administrative portals or subdomains are publicly viewable, which provides a potential access point to an organization's internal network. In the Cubit Score category, healthcare ranked 7th, among the top performers. Government ranked 2nd, after the legal industry. "These strong scores typically indicate that portals are not available to the public without some kind of secure Virtual Private Network (VPN) or whitelist and can also indicate the use of some kind of two-factor authentication," the study authors wrote.

Industries also were ranked by Leaked Credentials, or the likelihood that an organization will succumb to a security incident due to leaked information, and healthcare ranked 9th. Low performance in this category can indicate: 1) that employees are using corporate emails for non-work purposes and 2) that passwords are being reused, the study authors wrote.

The study also looked industries based on their patching cadence. The study authors noted that diligently patching operating systems, services, applications, software and hardware in a timely manner is necessary to keep hackers at bay. "If a hacker knows that a company has a slow patching cadence, then the hacker can wait for a newly disclosed vulnerability, build a payload, and exploit the vulnerability in less time than it takes for that organization to apply a patch," the study authors wrote.

Healthcare ranked 10th in the category of patching cadence.

Healthcare also scored among the bottom performers in the area of social engineering, ranking 16th out of 18. Nonprofits ranked the highest along with technology and government. The study authors note that social engineering attacks are much more behavioral in nature than technical, which makes them difficult to defend against. SecurityScorecard identified multiple factors related to social engineering such as employees using corporate account information in social networks, employees exposing an organization to phishing attacks and spam, and employees posting negative reviews of the business to social platforms.

Looking at other areas of cybersecurity, healthcare, again, ranked low, at 16th, in the category of Endpoint Security and healthcare ranked 14th in the area of IP Reputation. In the area of Domain Name System (DNS) Health, healthcare ranked among the top performers, at 6th. According to the study authors, a strong score indicates that these organizations are using good practices, such as ensuring proper configurations and employing other practices to protect DNS health.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 FDA recalls pacemakers: cyber flaws</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://fcw.com/articles/2017/08/29/fda-pacemaker-cyber-recall.aspx">https://fcw.com/articles/2017/08/29/fda-pacemaker-cyber-recall.aspx</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Nearly a half million pacemaker patients could be at risk for cyberattacks thanks to a known security vulnerability, according to an alert from the Food and Drug Administration.</p> <p>The FDA <u>issued</u> a mandatory recall Aug. 29 for six pacemaker devices manufactured by Abbott, formerly called St. Jude Medical. The recall is for firmware updates that will "reduce the risk of patient harm due to potential exploitation of cybersecurity vulnerabilities," the FDA wrote in its alert.</p> <p>The FDA has <u>issued</u> safety communications recalls like this in the past, but this is the first to affect implanted devices, Josh Corman, director of the Cyber Statecraft Initiative at the Atlantic Council told FCW.</p> <p>The affected devices, which are radio-frequency enabled, are marketed under the brand names Accent, Anthem, Accent MRI, Accent ST, Assurity and Allure. The FDA urged the 465,000 patients with the devices to talk to their health care providers to discuss the firmware update and the risks of cybersecurity</p>

	vulnerabilities.
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Medical identity theft a growing threat</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2017/08/29/medical-identity-theft-growing-threat/572830001/">http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2017/08/29/medical-identity-theft-growing-threat/572830001/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Whether it's an Internet hacker stealing Social Security numbers from hospital records, a doctor's office employee using patient data to set up phony store accounts, or an organized criminal group seeking to ransom patient information, medical identity theft is a growing crime.</p> <p>Hospitals, major insurance companies and even the Veterans Administration have been targets. That's because medical records contain a wealth of personal and financial information, from Social Security numbers and birth dates to credit card and bank account numbers, making them invaluable to thieves looking to commit fraud, experts say.</p> <p>There were more data breaches in the health care sector in 2015 than in any other critical infrastructure sector, according to a new report from the Health Care Industry Cybersecurity Task Force.</p> <p>"Health care cybersecurity is a key public health concern that needs immediate and aggressive attention," the group wrote.</p> <p>"If the health care system is connected, but insecure, this connectivity could betray patient safety, subjecting them to unnecessary risk and forcing them to pay unaffordable personal costs," they continued. "Our nation must find a way to prevent our patients from being forced to choose between connectivity and security."</p> <p>The task force — made up of government and private sector experts in the field — was established by Congress to identify health care cybersecurity risks and develop recommendations for dealing with them.</p> <p>The members concluded that real cases of identity theft, ransomware and other hacking incidents prove that health care data can be used for nefarious purposes.</p> <p>And more and more hackers are trying, said Rich Rogers, chief information officer for Greenville Health System.</p> <p>"We have seen the volume and sophistication of attacks ... growing in the last five years," he said. "The value of medical records on the dark net and the black market has increased."</p> <p>Nearly half (47 percent) of all people in the U.S. had their personal health care data compromised in 2015, according to the Institute for Critical Infrastructure Technology.</p> <p>Information security is a huge concern, especially in health care, said Harold Moore, chief information officer for Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System.</p> <p>And the industry faces additional challenges because health records are worth a lot more on the black market — an estimated \$50 vs \$2 for a hacked credit card, he said.</p> <p>"If a credit card gets stolen or hacked, someone realizes it and shuts it down and reissues a new card," he said. "When a health care record is stolen, it has information like a Social Security number ... and they can take that identity and open up other credit cards or take out loans and other kinds of things."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 Onliner Spambot dumps 711M users info</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.hackread.com/onliner-spambot-exposed-711-million-email-passwords/">https://www.hackread.com/onliner-spambot-exposed-711-million-email-passwords/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The year 2017 has already been the year for some massive data breaches such as <a href="#">Zomato</a> and <a href="#">Lynda</a>. At the same time <a href="#">Anti Public Combo List and Exploit.in</a> list with millions of accounts were already leaked online. But now, here's another threat to unsuspecting users – thanks to Benkow, a security researcher based in France for revealing it.</p> <p>According to <a href="#">Benkow</a>, he has got hands on a spambot by the name of “Onliner Spambot” containing email addresses and clear text passwords of 711 million users from around the world, one of the largest single set of data. The database is hosted on a server in Netherlands and is publicly available for anyone to access without any password protection.</p> <p>The database has been used to send out spams and <a href="#">Ursnif banking trojan</a> to users since 2016. Ursnif steals banking information from target computers including credit card data. Here is an example of malware infected email sent by scammers using Ursnif.</p> <p>“To send spam, the attacker needs a huge list of SMTP credentials. To do so, there are only two options: create it or buy it. And it's the same as for the IPs: the more SMTP servers he can find, the more he can distribute the campaign,” Benkow said.</p> <p>The database has been verified by Troy Hunt of HavelbeenPwned (HIBP) who wrote a <a href="#">blog post</a> explaining that 27 percent of the leaked accounts were already part of HIBP and predominantly from data breaches such as LinkedIn, Anti Combo list, MySpace, and Dropbox.</p> <p>“It took HIBP 110 data breaches over a period of 2 and a half years to accumulate 711m addresses and here we go, in one fell swoop, with that many concentrated in a single location. It's a mind-boggling amount of data,” said Hunt.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Phishers plumb depths of Harvey's floods</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/phishers-plumb-hurricane-harvey/">https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/phishers-plumb-hurricane-harvey/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Looking to capitalize on the goodwill of people wanting to help the victims in Houston and the Gulf Coast, bad actors have registered hundreds of new domains containing the term “Harvey.”</p> <p>SurfWatch Labs noted in a <a href="#">blog</a> that these domains are being used to send phishing emails with bogus donation lures; set up fake websites and crowdfunding pages; and support in-person and telephone “giving” scams, social media posts and more.</p> <p>Meanwhile, US-CERT is <a href="#">warning</a> users “to remain vigilant for malicious cyber-activity seeking to capitalize on interest in Hurricane Harvey.”</p> <p>Dan Lohrmann, chief security officer at Security Mentor, offered <i>Infosecurity</i> the following advice to avoid being scammed: “Watch out for Facebook pages or bogus ‘Go Fund Me’ accounts that try to attract emotional support with pictures,” he said. “They typically will use actual disaster photos from the storm to make them look official. The best advice is to give to the Red Cross using well-known and trusted channels. Also, be aware that personal appeals for money on crowdsourcing sites typically are not tax deductible, unlike the American Red Cross and Salvation Army.”</p> <p>SurfWatch noted that tips to prevent falling victim to Harvey phishing attempts include the usual protections: Never click on links or open attachments unless you know who sent it and what it is; never reply to emails, text messages or pop-ups that ask for personal information; and always verify that a communication is valid by contacting the organization directly before providing any sensitive information.</p> <p>Importantly, don't let the fear of cyberattack dissuade giving.</p>

	<p>“We all want to be sure that our donations actually go to the people, and charities who need them,” Steve Durbin, managing director of the <a href="#">Information Security Forum</a>, said via email. “Just be sure you pay close attention to <u>who you are donating</u> to so that you don’t end up becoming another victim.”</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Claim: NKorea stealing bitcoin</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.securityweek.com/north-korea-accused-stealing-bitcoin-bolster-finances">http://www.securityweek.com/north-korea-accused-stealing-bitcoin-bolster-finances</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>North Korea (DPRK) appears to be targeting bitcoin (both users and exchanges) as a means to counter the increasing effect of international sanctions. Earlier this month the UN Security Council unanimously imposed new sanctions targeting the country's primary exports. Dwindling coal exports to China will be particularly severe, and DPRK's export revenues will likely be slashed by \$1 billion.</p> <p>Recent cyber-attacks against South Korean bitcoin exchanges are now being blamed on North Korea. Radio Free Asia (RFA) -- a non-profit East Asian News Agency -- has reported that DPRK has already launched three cyber-attacks on bitcoin exchanges in South Korea, and one in Europe. Details, including timings, are sparse -- so it is quite possible that the July <a href="#">hack of a Bithumb</a> employee is included, and here attributed to North Korea.</p> <p>This basic premise that North Korea is targeting bitcoins is reiterated in a <a href="#">report</a> from the United Press International news agency. It says, "The CWIC Cyber Warfare Research Center in South Korea stated a domestic exchange for bitcoin, the worldwide cryptocurrency and digital payment system, has been the target of an attempted hacking... CWIC's Simon Choi said it is 'not only one or two exchanges where attack attempts have been made'."</p> <p>The precise status of the Cyber Warfare Research Center in South Korea is not explained. Nevertheless, Choi is credited with claiming that phishing emails have been targeting not just bitcoin exchanges, but that "Startups that use blockchain, financial technology sector companies as well as others, may have been the target." The report adds, "According to CWIC, the malicious code attached to the emails was identical to viruses of North Korean origin."</p> <p>Despite the lack of detail, these two reports have been elaborated by bitcoin news publications. One leads with "State-sponsored North Korean hackers have been accused of targeting South Korean bitcoin exchanges with cyberattacks and hacking attempts by a South Korean official."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Hackers modify 'Jimmy Nukebot' tasks</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.scmagazine.com/hackers-rewrite-jimmy-nukebot-malware-to-change-its-goals-and-tasks/article/684860/">https://www.scmagazine.com/hackers-rewrite-jimmy-nukebot-malware-to-change-its-goals-and-tasks/article/684860/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A modification of the Neutrino malware has been discovered by security researchers. The Trojan has been modified to put its functions into modules to make analysis much more difficult.</p> <p>Dubbed Jimmy Nukebot by Kaspersky Lab researcher Sergey Yunakovsky, the Trojan has undergone an extensive rewrite by the author. Yunakovsky noted that one small difference that immediately stands out is in the calculation of checksums from the names of API functions/libraries and strings. In the first case, the checksums are used to find the necessary API calls; in the second case, for a comparison of strings (commands, process names).</p> <p>“This approach makes static analysis much more complicated: for example, to identify which detected process halts the Trojan operation, it's necessary to calculate the checksums from a huge list of strings, or to bruteforce the symbols in a certain length range. NeutrinoPOS uses two different algorithms to calculate checksums for the names of API calls, libraries and for the strings,” he said.</p>

He added that the malware has completely lost the functionality for stealing bank card data from the memory of an infected device; now, its task is limited solely to receiving modules from a remote node and installing them into the system.

These modules contain the payload, according to the researcher. There were new modules for web-injects, mining and a large number of updates for the main module in various droppers. The miner is designed to extract the Monero currency (XMR). The web-inject modules are so called for their primary intended use, although they are also able to perform functions similar to those in NeutrinoPOS, ie, take screenshots, “raise” proxy servers, etc.

“These modules are distributed in the form of libraries and their functions vary depending on the name of the process in which they are located,” said Yunakovsky.

The researcher added that in isolation from the previous modifications, the newly created Jimmy would not be of much interest to researchers.

“However, in this context, it is an excellent example of what can be done with the source code of a quality Trojan, namely, flexibly adapt to the goals and tasks set before a botnet to take advantage of a new source,” he added.

Tony Rowan, chief security consultant at SentinelOne, told SC Media UK that this is clearly a move to react to the advances in detection methods that have been made.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 UK critical infrastructure vulnerable</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.scmagazine.com/critical-infrastructure-not-ready-for-ddos-attacks-foi-data-report/article/684863/">https://www.scmagazine.com/critical-infrastructure-not-ready-for-ddos-attacks-foi-data-report/article/684863/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The UK's critical infrastructure is vulnerable to DDoS attacks due to failure to carry out basic security defence work - 39 percent of respondents to a recent survey had not completed the government's '10 Steps to Cyber Security' <a href="#">programme</a>, which was first issued in 2012.</p> <p>New data was obtained by Corero Network Security under the Freedom of Information Act surveying 338 critical infrastructure organisations in the UK, including fire and rescue services, police forces, ambulance trusts, NHS trusts, energy suppliers and transport organisations; it also showed that 42 percent of NHS Trusts had not completed the programme.</p> <p>More than half (51 percent) of these critical infrastructure organisations were described by Corero as ignoring the risk of short, stealth DDoS attacks on their networks – which typically account for around 90 percent of DDoS attacks and are used by attackers to plant malware or ransomware, or engage in data theft. Corero reports that these stealth attacks are typically less than 30 minutes in duration, and 98 percent of those stopped by the company were less than 10Gbps in volume, hence they often go unnoticed by security staff, but are frequently used by attackers in their efforts to target, map and infiltrate a network.</p> <p>In a statement issued today, Sean Newman, director of product management at Corero, comments: “Cyber-attacks against national infrastructure have the potential to inflict significant, real-life disruption and prevent access to critical services that are vital to the functioning of our economy and society. These findings suggest that many such organisations are not as cyber resilient as they should be, in the face of growing and sophisticated cyber threats.”</p> <p>Newman adds, “ By not detecting and investigating these short, surgical, DDoS attacks on their networks, infrastructure organisations could also be leaving their doors wide-open for malware or ransomware attacks, data theft or more serious cyber attacks.”</p>

	<p>It was also pointed out that in the event of a breach, these organisations could be liable for fines of up to £17 million, or four percent of global turnover, under the UK government's proposals to implement the EU's Network and Information Systems (NIS) directive, from May 2018.</p> <p>In an email to SC, David Emm, principal security researcher, Kaspersky Lab observed, “The world isn't ready for cyber -threats against critical infrastructure – but criminals are clearly ready and able to launch attacks on these facilities. We've seen attempts on power grids, oil refineries, steel plants, financial infrastructure, seaports and hospitals – and these are cases where organisations have spotted attacks and acknowledged them. However, many more companies do neither, and the lack of reporting these incidents hampers risk assessment and response to the threat.”</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/28 Spanish soccer clubs Twitter hacked</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.scmagazine.com/the-ourmine-hacking-group-managed-to-seize-the-teams-twitter-accounts-and-sent-tweets-welcoming-the-player-in-english-and-spanish/article/684876/">https://www.scmagazine.com/the-ourmine-hacking-group-managed-to-seize-the-teams-twitter-accounts-and-sent-tweets-welcoming-the-player-in-english-and-spanish/article/684876/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Grey hat hackers pranked soccer fans by hacking the Real Madrid Twitter accounts and posting tweets announcing the signing of rival player Lionel Messi along with video of the player scoring for Barcelona against Real Madrid.</p> <p>The <u>Ourmine</u> hacking group managed to seize the team's Twitter accounts and sent tweets welcoming the player in English and Spanish which were visible on the football club's social media feeds for more than an hour before they were removed. The prankster followed up with a series of tweets claiming responsibility for the hack saying: “Internet security is s*** and we proved that,” in what are now deleted tweets, according to an Aug. 28 ESET <a href="#">blog</a> post.</p> <p>The compromised Twitter account comes just days after the team's fiercest rivals, FC Barcelona, also had their Twitter social media accounts hacked in a similar pranks announcing the signing of Ángel Di María from Paris Saint-Germain. It's unclear if the two breaches are related.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 DOJ: new cybercrime lab, efforts</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.scmagazine.com/rosenstein-announces-new-resources-to-fight-cybercrime/article/685067/">https://www.scmagazine.com/rosenstein-announces-new-resources-to-fight-cybercrime/article/685067/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein said his department has strengthened its ability to pursue charges against cybercriminals through the more than 260 Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property Coordinators placed throughout the country and announced the addition of a cybercrime lab.</p> <p>More than 45 attorneys will be responsible for prosecuting intellectual property and cybercrime cases throughout the nation, according to an Aug. 29 DOJ press <a href="#">release</a>.</p> <p>“We need to remain up to date about the technological challenges of intellectual property and cybercrime, so our Department has established a Cybercrime Lab staffed by expert technologists,” Rosenstein said at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Interpol International Law Enforcement IP Crime Conference in New York. “They assist with investigations and monitor developments in the ways criminals use technology.”</p> <p>Rosenstein said the efforts also include the addition of highly trained prosecutors equipped to communicate with industry about possible cases, to support partner agencies in investigating criminal infringements of property rights, and to bring strong cases to court for prosecution.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/28 WireX DDoS botnet hits Androids</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://thehackernews.com/2017/08/android-ddos-botnet.html">https://thehackernews.com/2017/08/android-ddos-botnet.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Do you believe that just because you have downloaded an app from the official app store, you're safe from malware?</p> <p>Think twice before believing it.</p> <p>A team of security researchers from several security firms have uncovered a new, widespread botnet that consists of tens of thousands of hacked Android smartphones.</p> <p>Dubbed WireX, detected as "Android Clicker," the botnet network primarily includes infected Android devices running one of the hundreds of malicious apps installed from Google Play Store and is designed to conduct massive application layer DDoS attacks.</p> <p>Researchers from different Internet technology and security companies—which includes Akamai, <a href="#">CloudFlare</a>, Flashpoint, Google, Oracle Dyn, RiskIQ, Team Cymru—spotted a series of cyber attacks earlier this month, and they collaborated to combat it.</p> <p>Although Android malware campaigns are quite common these days and this newly discovered campaign is also not that much sophisticated, I am quite impressed with the way multiple security firms—where half of them are competitors—came together and shared information to take down a botnet.</p> <p>WireX botnet was used to launch minor DDoS attacks earlier this month, but after mid-August, the attacks began to escalate.</p> <p>The "WireX" botnet had already infected over 120,000 Android smartphones at its peak earlier this month, and on 17th August, researchers noticed a massive DDoS attack (primarily HTTP GET requests) originated from more than 70,000 infected mobile devices from over 100 countries.</p> <p>After further investigation, security researchers identified more than 300 malicious apps on Google's official Play Store, many of which purported to be media, video players, ringtones, or tools for storage managers and app stores, which include the malicious WireX code.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/28 China enforces real-name policy</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://thehackernews.com/2017/08/china-real-name-registration.html">https://thehackernews.com/2017/08/china-real-name-registration.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>If you reside in China, your Internet life within the borders will soon be even more challenging.</p> <p>Last Friday, China's top Internet regulator announced a new set of rules that would force citizens to post comments using their real-world identities on Internet forums and other web platforms.</p> <p>Yes, you heard that right. Anonymity is about to die in the country.</p> <p>The Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) will start officially enforcing the new rules starting from October 1, 2017, requiring websites operators and service providers of online forums to request and verify real names and other personal information from users when they register and must immediately report illegal content to the authorities.</p> <p>While China has already enforced "real-name registration" rules on the leading online platforms like WeChat and Weibo for a few years, the latest regulations would cover the remaining parts of the online world, including online communities and discussion forums.</p> <p>The new rules will be imposed on websites, smartphone apps, interactive communications platforms, and any communication platform that features news or functions to "mobilise society." In fact, news sites even</p>

	<p>have to moderate comments before publishing.</p> <p>These new regulations follow China's 14-month-long crackdown on VPN (Virtual Private Networks), which requires VPN service providers in the country to obtain prior government approval, making most VPN vendors in the country of 730 million Internet users illegal.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Using LabVIEW? Unpatched vulnerability</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://thehackernews.com/2017/08/hacking-labview-vi-file.html">https://thehackernews.com/2017/08/hacking-labview-vi-file.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>If you're an engineer and use LabVIEW software to design machines or industrial equipment, you should be very suspicious while opening any VI (virtual instrument) file.</p> <p>LabVIEW, developed by American company National Instruments, is a visual programming language and powerful system-design tool that is being used worldwide in hundreds of fields and provides engineers with a simple environment to build measurement or control systems</p> <p>Security researchers from Cisco's Talos Security Intelligence have discovered a critical vulnerability in LabVIEW software that could allow attackers to execute malicious code on a target computer, giving them full control of the system.</p> <p>Identified as <a href="#">CVE-2017-2779</a>, the code execution vulnerability could be triggered by opening a specially crafted VI file, a proprietary file format used by LabVIEW.</p> <p>The vulnerability originates because of memory corruption issue in the RSRC segment parsing functionality of LabVIEW.</p> <p>Modulating the values within the RSRC segment of a VI file causes a controlled looping condition, which results in an arbitrary null write.</p> <p>Talos researchers have successfully tested the vulnerability on LabVIEW 2016 version 16.0, but National Instruments has refused to consider this issue as a vulnerability in their product and had no plans to release any patch to address the flaw.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 FTC to issue refunds in tech scam</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/ftc-to-issue-refunds-following-tech-support-scam/d/d-id/1329750?">http://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/ftc-to-issue-refunds-following-tech-support-scam/d/d-id/1329750?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is notifying victims of a tech support scheme who are eligible for partial refunds, the commission announced today. Hundreds of thousands of people were deceived in an operation that ran from April 2012 to November 2014.</p> <p>Eligible consumers purchased tech support products and services from a company called Advanced Tech Support, which also operated under the name Inbound Call Experts. The FTC claims operators behind the scam lied to consumers by saying their machines were infected with malware and viruses, then used high-pressure marketing to sell tech support.</p> <p>The defendants paid \$10 million as part of a settlement with the FTC. Their deal also prohibits defendants from misrepresenting the fact that they diagnosed problems on consumers' machines, and from making other misrepresentations while selling tools and services.</p> <p>Those eligible for refunds will have until October 27, 2017 to submit a request.</p>
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HEADLINE	<b>08/29 Basics: how hackers hide malware</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.darkreading.com/how-hackers-hide-their-malware-the-basics/a/d-id/1329722?">http://www.darkreading.com/how-hackers-hide-their-malware-the-basics/a/d-id/1329722?</a>
GIST	<p>Antivirus (AV) and anti-malware products are among the oldest and most mature defenses against cyber attacks we have, yet new malware samples seem to make it past legacy AV solutions every day. If you monitored the top AV engines the day WannaCry surfaced, you'd have seen that most of them missed the first samples early on but slowly updated signatures over the following hours, days, and weeks. This is a perfect example of the delayed, reactive nature of signature-based detection solutions.</p> <p>Signature-based AV software can also miss well-known threats. The industry sees anywhere from 300,000 to 1 million new malware variants each day. However, criminals aren't making millions of new worms, Trojans, or viruses. There are probably thousands, not hundreds of thousands, of truly unique malware families. So, where do these millions of variants come from?</p> <p>The answer is malware evasion techniques. Over time, malware authors have developed hundreds of techniques to make their malware look "new again" to evade security controls. In the second of a two-part post, I'll cover seven high-level evasion techniques cybercriminals use to hide malware from you and your security software, and explain some of the ways we can still detect them. Here, in part 1, I'll outline four basic malware obfuscation methods.</p> <h3>1. Packers</h3> <p>A packer is a program that compresses an executable to make it smaller. It wraps the compressed executable in the code necessary to decompress itself at runtime. The act of compression changes the way the executable file looks. Signature-based detection relies on malware researchers or automated systems finding a pattern in a known malware file, such as a hash or the number of binary patterns, to create a unique identifier for that malware. Packing changes this identifier, so the AV may not detect the packed file.</p> <p>Though there are legitimate uses for packers, including making your executables smaller or making it harder for pirates to reverse engineer your code, malware regularly uses packed executables to try to hide from your AV. AV can often detect packing, but since you can legitimately pack executables, AV products can't use this alone to decide something is malware.</p> <h3>2. Crypters</h3> <p>A crypter is similar to a packer but adds additional obfuscation or encryption to the mix. Like a packer, its goal is to change the binary fingerprint of a file to avoid detection. In a nutshell, the crypter encrypts the original executable using an encryption algorithm — often something as simple as a XOR cipher with a unique key. The crypter then creates a stub, which is the initial program that has everything it needs to decrypt and run the real embedded payload.</p> <p>By using different keys with a XOR cipher to encode the original program, you can create almost endless altered copies of the same program. Nowadays, other criminals sell many different crypters on the underground market. You can also find many free ones, like the well-known Veil-Evasion framework.</p> <p>There are some issues with both packers and crypters. For instance, both techniques mostly protect malware from static analysis but not necessarily dynamic analysis. Static analysis means malware detection techniques you perform on a file that has not executed yet. Because you want to stop malware before it gets onto systems, many AV products scan files as they pass through networks or get copied onto a computer's file system. However, static analysis limits what AV can learn about the particular file since those files could be packed or crypted.</p> <p>Dynamic analysis, on the other hand, means detection techniques applied when a file executes. Dynamic analysis allows you to see the malware code in memory, or pay attention to other things it does. A packed or crypted program eventually has to unpack or decrypt itself to run. Thus, products using dynamic analysis can often recognize the obfuscated malware once it does run. Furthermore, once AV companies</p>

figure out how to detect particular packers or the stubs for crypters, they can sometimes recognize those malicious files without needing to see the decoded binary.

I'm simplifying, of course. Packers and crypters continue to evolve in an arms race against AV software and now use techniques such as only decrypting small portions of the real payload in memory at a time, which can make it harder for AV products.

### 3. Polymorphic Malware

At the highest level, polymorphic malware is malware that repeatedly uses packing and crypting methods to change the way it looks. However, rather than using static keys as most crypters do, polymorphic malware uses more complex encrypting algorithms with random keys, variables, and decoders. The malware itself can mutate itself every time it copies itself to a new location, or criminals can set up servers that automatically morph their malware variant every time it's sent to a new victim. Server-side polymorphic malware is very popular and likely accounts for a large majority of daily malware variants.

### 4. Downloaders, Droppers, and Staged Loading

Many kinds of malware use staging programs called droppers or downloaders to learn about a system before installing the real malware. Some of these droppers scope out a system first to avoid triggering security alerts when they download and install the real payload. They may seek out and kill security processes or check to see if they're running on a virtual system. They may also download their secondary payloads using encrypted back channels to avoid network detection or inject malware directly into known Windows processes to avoid detection. On the downside, AV vendors can design signatures to recognize these droppers and downloaders, and modern AV programs are good at defending themselves from dropper tricks.

These four techniques hackers use to hide malware are relatively basic but quite effective.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Fake FBI, IRS phishing scam</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.darkreading.com/application-security/fbi-irs-themed-email-scam-spreads-ransomware-/d/d-id/1329752?">http://www.darkreading.com/application-security/fbi-irs-themed-email-scam-spreads-ransomware-/d/d-id/1329752?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A phishing scam that uses fake FBI and Internal Revenue Service emblems in emails is circulating and attempting to entice users to download ransomware, the IRS warned this week.</p> <p>Users are asked to click on a "here" link to download a bogus FBI questionnaire, but instead malware is installed that takes a user's computer data hostage, the IRS states.</p> <p>"People with a tax issue won't get their first contact from the IRS with a threatening email or phone call," says John Koskinen, IRS commissioner, in a statement. The IRS does not use email, text messages, or social media to discuss personal issues like tax refunds or tax bills, the agency noted.</p> <p>The IRS advises customers to forgo paying the ransom because it will likely lead to more ransomware attacks and often does not lead to receipt of a decryption key.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Shellshock still in the crosshairs</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.darkreading.com/application-security/shellshock-still-in-the-crosshairs/d/d-id/1329757?">http://www.darkreading.com/application-security/shellshock-still-in-the-crosshairs/d/d-id/1329757?</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Old bugs die hard: the three-year-old Shellshock vulnerability was the most commonly targeted security hole in the second quarter of 2017, according to security firm eSentire.</p> <p>The GNU Bash Remote Code Execution flaw, aka Shellshock (CVE-2014-6271), accounted for 40% of the top eight flaws targeted in Q2, according to new data from eSentire gathered from some 1,500 of its</p>

	<p>network and host sensors installed in 600 customer sites.</p> <p>Viktors Engelbrechts, director of threat intelligence at eSentire, says the exposed systems his firm spotted being probed for the flaw are mainly public-facing Web servers.</p> <p>The critical flaw in Linux and Unix operating systems, as well as Mac OS X, was first discovered in September of 2014, and continues to be left unpatched in many organizations.</p> <p>That makes it a lucrative target for attackers. Engelbrechts theorizes that the Shellshock-probing activity spotted by his firm likely is the handiwork of state-sponsored attackers gathering intel on vulnerable systems, given the automated, wide range of the scope of the scans.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Cowlitz Co: 2 charged w/Internet fraud</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://komonews.com/news/local/detectives-las-vegas-couple-arrested-for-internet-fraud-of-cowlitz-co-residents">http://komonews.com/news/local/detectives-las-vegas-couple-arrested-for-internet-fraud-of-cowlitz-co-residents</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>COWLITZ CO., Wash. - A couple living in Las Vegas is accused of taking \$400,000 from people across the U.S. through an internet fraud case, the Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office said.</p> <p>Detectives first found out about the scheme when someone living in Cowlitz County said she sent thousands of dollars to someone who claimed her computer had a virus and that he could recover her data if she sent him money.</p> <p>Officials said the person ultimately lost more than \$35,000 in the process.</p> <p>While investigating the case, detectives found several similar cases across the U.S., including three other victims in Washington State.</p> <p>Through the investigation, detectives identified Nerraj and Shweta Kohli, a husband and wife living in Las Vegas, as suspects in the case. They are accused of getting more than \$400,000 through MoneyGram.</p> <p>"In total, Neeraj Kohli bilked citizens across the US out of \$279,641.24 in 158 Money Gram transactions from 12/28/15 to 3/14/16," officials said in a statement. "Shweta Kohli collected \$147,238.37 through 81 MoneyGram transactions during that same period."</p> <p>The couple will be extradited to Cowlitz County, however they also could face federal prosecution.</p> <p>"Internet Fraud cases are very difficult and time consuming to investigate. This was a particularly complex case and Detective Lorenzo Gladson did a superb job with this investigation," said Chief Criminal Deputy Charlie Rosenzweig. "It highlights how Sheriff's Office deputies work hard in solving the cases and hunting down the suspects to take them in to custody where they can stand trial."</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 India's top court: privacy is a right</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://money.cnn.com/2017/08/29/technology/india-right-to-privacy-tech-industry-aadhaar/index.html">http://money.cnn.com/2017/08/29/technology/india-right-to-privacy-tech-industry-aadhaar/index.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>India's top court has put tech companies on notice.</p> <p>In <u>ruling</u> that privacy is a fundamental right, the country's Supreme Court singled out tech firms for gathering huge amounts of data: Facebook knows who we are friends with, the justices wrote, while Alibaba studies our shopping habits and Airbnb tracks our travel.</p>

"This can have a stultifying effect on the expression of dissent and difference of opinion, which no democracy can afford," the court said last week. "There is an unprecedented need for regulation regarding [how] such information can be stored, processed and used."

Indian internet activists hailed the decision, but warned that the debate about how tech giants collect and use data is only just beginning.

"These companies must brace for [legal action]," said Sunil Abraham, executive director of the Bangalore-based Centre for Internet and Society. "Individuals who are unhappy with the treatment of their personal information can now take them to court, because it is an infringement of a fundamental right."

The UN Conference on Trade and Development said that while the United States, European Union, China and other nations have established similar protections, roughly 60 developing countries have no rules that govern how the tech industry should collect and use personal data.

Activists say legal protections are needed to keep tech firms from irresponsibly harvesting data. Internet giants including Facebook and Google have built their business models around aggregating information about their users, and then marketing it to retailers. Some firms sell the data to third parties.

The global battle lines are being drawn: The U.S. government recently asked the Supreme Court to compel Microsoft to hand over user data stored overseas, and the U.K. has proposed legislation that would allow users to ask platforms to delete their posts. The EU has taken several tech firms to task over privacy concerns.

Now the debate is heating up in the world's largest democracy. Nikhil Pahwa, an internet activist and founder of tech website MediaNama, said the Indian court's ruling gives campaigners a major tool in the fight to keep data private.

"We've now been given a right which allows us to argue for our rights against practices of different companies," Pahwa said.

The ruling could even cause problems for the Indian government, which is pushing its own controversial biometric ID card program. Nearly 1.2 billion people -- 92% of India's population -- have registered for the Aadhaar scheme, which links their fingerprints and iris scans to a unique 12-digit number.

The program is designed to make welfare payments and medical services much more efficient. But skeptics have bristled at recent orders that seek to make the biometric ID mandatory when opening a bank account or filing taxes.

The Indian government, which argued before the Supreme Court that privacy was not a fundamental right, said following the ruling that it was working on a stringent data protection law. Technology minister Ravi Shankar Prasad told local media that the new rules would be in place by December.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Facebook tackles fake news pages</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/tech-news/facebook-will-punish-pages-share-fake-news-n797201">https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/tech-news/facebook-will-punish-pages-share-fake-news-n797201</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Spread fake news, prepare to pay the price.</p> <p>Pages that post hoax stories on Facebook will now be banned from advertising on the social network, marking the latest move in the ongoing battle to quell fake news.</p> <p>A Facebook blog post said the move targets "instances of Pages using Facebook ads to build their audiences in order to distribute false news more broadly."</p>

	Spreading fake news is of course a profitable business. Many pages have used advertisements to build their audience. When people click on their fake stories, those fake news purveyors can then make money off their readership by running ads on their sites. Facebook and Google do not allow fake news sites to use their advertising platforms.
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HEADLINE	<b>08/29 Homeless vanish w/TweakerCam rolling</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.king5.com/news/local/everett/homeless-vanish-after-tweakerville-cameras-start-rolling/469024966">http://www.king5.com/news/local/everett/homeless-vanish-after-tweakerville-cameras-start-rolling/469024966</a>
GIST	<p>It has been seen in 176 different countries and raised eyebrows from England to Everett.</p> <p>Now, though, viewership for the YouTube sensation known as TweakerCam have dropped off considerably.</p> <p>"We have 1.5 million people very upset with us," said Gary Watts. "They want us to find entertainment for them. We're just tickled to death that it's very boring."</p> <p>Fed up with a homeless camp that has plagued his neighborhood for years, Watts recently set up HD video cameras outside his Everett business and started <b>live streaming the video online</b>.</p> <p>They captured grim images of people shooting up in broad daylight.</p> <p>About a month later, that very same street corner dubbed "Tweakerville" is a ghost town.</p> <p>"It's like Christmas coming," said Watts. "Can you imagine fighting something for years and then all at once in a matter of two or three days you see the place clean up almost totally?"</p> <p>The dealers seem to have disappeared, but where did the dozens of others go?</p> <p>"We're not sure," said Watts, "but we're hoping they went to one of these fine cities around us that will give them a safe place to make their injections, and provide them with better food and health care."</p> <p>An Everett police spokesman said the cameras and the publicity they've generated were not the impetus for the recent sweeps, but the department values cooperation from the public. Officer Aaron Snell said the department will continue its normal patrols and predicted the camps will likely return sooner or later.</p> <p>By midday Tuesday a small handful of homeless were creeping back close to the corner outside Watts' business.</p>
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## Terror Conditions

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HEADLINE	<b>08/29 NY man arrested trying to join ISIS</b>
SOURCE	<a href="http://www.nbcnewyork.com/investigations/Terror-Arrest-ISIS-Queens-New-York-City-Parveg-Ahmed-442140973.html">http://www.nbcnewyork.com/investigations/Terror-Arrest-ISIS-Queens-New-York-City-Parveg-Ahmed-442140973.html</a>
GIST	<p>The family of a young Queens man arrested for allegedly trying to join with ISIS in Syria say they're in shock, and they never saw the arrest coming.</p> <p>Parveg Ahmed, 22, of Ozone Park, was arrested after flying from New York to Saudi Arabia and then attempting to cross into Syria, law enforcement officials tell NBC 4 New York. He was stopped before he could travel into Syria.</p>

After Joint Terrorism Task Forces got a search warrant for Ahmed's personal computer in July they found he'd been listening to recordings of radical Islamic terrorists. One of the recordings was from Abdullah el-Faisal, a Jamaican born cleric found guilty in UK of solicitation to commit murder.

A cell phone search warrant turned up messages to people expressing a desire to travel to ISIS controlled areas, and a message indicating he planned to join ISIS in Syria to wage violent jihad. His browser history also turned up research of maps of ISIS controlled locations, officials said.

Ahmed is charged with attempted material support for terror.

"As alleged, Ahmed sought to take up arms with violent terrorists who have killed numerous innocent victims, including Americans," said Acting US Attorney Bridget Rohde in a statement.

A search of Ahmed's computer indicated he listened to recordings of two notorious clerics, Anwar al-Awlaki and Abdullah el-Faisal. Al-Awlaki was killed in 2011, and el-Faisal was indicted in New York just last week and arrested in Jamaica.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Tourists returning to France</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.ft.com/content/c968924e-7dc7-11e7-ab01-a13271d1ee9c">https://www.ft.com/content/c968924e-7dc7-11e7-ab01-a13271d1ee9c</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A Louis Vuitton shopping bag in one hand and a Christian Louboutin shoebox in another, Thais Amorion Clemente, a 25-year-old Brazilian, is slowly finishing her shopping in the upmarket Galeries Lafayette department store in Paris.</p> <p>She came to Europe with her mother for six days of sightseeing, shopping and eating — pushing to one side fears of more of the terrorism that has rocked the French capital since 2015.</p> <p>“I was a little bit afraid of terrorist attacks but it was a spontaneous idea, and the tickets were so cheap,” she says. “Who would not like to come to Paris in summer?”</p> <p>To the relief of France’s vast visitor economy, more international tourists are starting to think like Ms Clemente.</p> <p>In the second quarter of this year, international visitors booked 10.4 per cent more hotel nights than in the same period in 2016. It means that for the first time visitor numbers have surpassed the levels reached before terrorist attacks ushered in an annus horribilis for French tourism, when even the high-profile robbery of US celebrity Kim Kardashian in a Paris hotel discouraged some potential visitors.</p> <p>“2016 was a kind of nightmare for us,” says Charles-Henri Boisseau, a research analyst at Paris Tourist, the city’s tourism office. The number of international visitors to France fell 2.2 per cent to less than 83m.</p> <p>France’s foreign ministry estimates 88m to 89m tourists will visit the country in 2017, an increase of 5 to 6 per cent on last year that would maintain its status as the world’s leading tourist destination by number of visitors. President Emmanuel Macron’s government has confirmed a target set in 2014 for 100m tourists in 2020.</p> <p>But the big challenge that the government is facing is not only attracting tourists but making them stay longer and consume more.</p> <p>“We have 20 per cent tourists more [but] 25 per cent tourist expenditure less than Spain,” says Didier Arino, the head of Protourisme, a consultancy.</p> <p>In 2016 France was only the fifth biggest recipient of tourists’ money after the US, the UK, China and</p>



	Spain, according to the World Bank. According to Protourisme research, a quarter of those that the French government counts as foreign tourists use France only as a brief stop for further travels around Europe or to fly to other countries. Another 15 per cent of visitors come only for a short stay.
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Pittsburgh: non-fliers thru security lines</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/flights/todayinthesky/2017/08/29/pittsburgh-first-airport-allow-non-fliers-past-security-since-9-11/612037001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/flights/todayinthesky/2017/08/29/pittsburgh-first-airport-allow-non-fliers-past-security-since-9-11/612037001/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Care to do some shopping at the airport, even if you're not flying? Or walk a loved one to the gate before their flight?</p> <p>You'll be able to do that starting next week at <u>Pittsburgh International</u>. The airport is now poised to become the first U.S. airport allow non-fliers regular access into its gate-side terminal areas since security measures changed after the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001.</p> <p>The airport has won approval from the Transportation Security Administration to allow non-ticketed customers to pass through security, though they will still have to go through the same screening as those catching flights. They'll also be required to show ID so they can be vetted against no-fly lists.</p> <p>"There's no reduction in security for this," airport spokesman Bob Kerlik tells the <i>Pittsburgh Business Times</i>. "You're going through all of the same security checks that you would be if you were flying."</p> <p>Access with the "myPITpass" program starts Sept. 5, when non-flying visitors can request a day-pass at a special counter in the airport's ticketing area. Access will initially be allowed only on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Officials says that could be expanded if it the effort proves popular.</p> <p>To ensure that non-flying visitors don't bog down screening queues, airport and TSA officials say ticketed passengers will receive priority in checkpoint lines.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Turkey-backed rebels attack US troops</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.cnn.com/2017/08/29/politics/us-troops-exchange-fire-turkish-rebels-syria/index.html">http://www.cnn.com/2017/08/29/politics/us-troops-exchange-fire-turkish-rebels-syria/index.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>(CNN)US troops in northern Syria came under direct attack last week by Turkish-backed rebels, a military official with the coalition fighting ISIS told CNN Tuesday. The official said that while US troops returned fire there were no casualties on either side.</p> <p>The coalition believes the attackers are part of the Turkish-backed opposition forces, a loose grouping of Arab and Turkmen fighters that have helped the Turkish military clear ISIS from the Turkish-Syria border area.</p> <p>"Recent incidents have occurred in territories primarily under the control of Turkish-backed fighters. We are engaged with Ankara and other parties to address this danger," Pentagon spokesman Eric Pahon told CNN.</p> <p>Many of these Turkey-supported forces originated as part of the opposition to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and they have also clashed with the US-backed and Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces in a struggle for influence in the region.</p> <p>While Turkey has in the past backed these fighters with tanks, airstrikes and special forces, the coalition official made it clear that Turkish soldiers were not involved in the recent attacks on US personnel.</p> <p>But the official added that the coalition had delivered a demarche, or diplomatic protest, to Ankara</p>

	following the attack on US forces by Turkey's allies.
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Hezbollah: mission accomplished w/ISIS</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.cnn.com/2017/08/29/middleeast/hezbollah-isis/index.html">http://www.cnn.com/2017/08/29/middleeast/hezbollah-isis/index.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>(CNN)Lebanon's campaign against ISIS in its border region has been declared "mission accomplished" by the armed group Hezbollah shortly after it announced a pause in the fight against the militant group.</p> <p>Around 600 ISIS fighters and family members have now left Lebanon and crossed the border into ISIS-held eastern Syria, according to the Syrian state-run news agency SANA.</p> <p>"When ISIS found itself in the last corner facing a critical battle, it surrendered and collapsed and had no other option other but to accept our conditions," the leader of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah Hassan Nasrallah said in a televised address Monday.</p> <p>"The issue we are talking about is not just the liberation of 140 square kilometers of the Lebanese territory but the liberation of all Lebanese territories which means there are no more terrorists existing on any hill, mountain, valley or border point," Nasrallah said.</p> <p>He said it was a case of "mission accomplished."</p> <p>The transfer of ISIS fighters came after a peace agreement was struck between Hezbollah, the Lebanese army and ISIS on Sunday -- the first deal the extremist Sunni terror group has made with a battlefield foe.</p> <p>The Lebanese army said the ceasefire would allow negotiations on nine soldiers held by ISIS since 2014. The military later said it found eight bodies and was conducting DNA tests to see if they were indeed its soldiers.</p> <p>The army, which was fighting on the Lebanese side of the eastern border, said it didn't coordinate with Hezbollah, which was fighting on the Syrian side in West Qalamoun. Working in tandem with Hezbollah would be politically sensitive as Lebanon is an ally of the US which has designated Hezbollah a terrorist organization.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Lebanon's negotiated ISIS evacuation</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/militants-reach-eastern-syria-lebanon-deal-49485064">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/militants-reach-eastern-syria-lebanon-deal-49485064</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Buses carrying hundreds of Islamic State militants and their families arrived in eastern Syria on Tuesday following a negotiated evacuation from the Lebanon-Syria border, where the U.S.-backed Lebanese army deployed for the first time in years.</p> <p>The evacuation agreement, the first such publicized deal concluded with the extremist group, angered many Iraqis, who accused Syria and <u>Hezbollah</u> of dumping the militants on the Iraqi border rather than eradicating them.</p> <p>Some 600 militants were allowed to leave as part of a deal, negotiated by Hezbollah, in exchange for identifying the location of the remains of Lebanese soldiers captured by IS in 2014 and later killed. The deal also provoked controversy in Lebanon, as some have voiced opposition to negotiations with the militants.</p> <p>Iraqi Prime Minister <u>Haider al-Abadi</u> said his government has sought an explanation from Syria.</p> <p>"Honestly speaking, we are unhappy and consider it incorrect," al-Abadi told reporters. "Transferring</p>

terrorists from Qalamoun (along the Lebanese-Syrian border) to the Iraqi-Syrian border is worrying and an insult to the (Iraqi) people."

"There must be no chance for Daesh to breath," he added, referring to IS by its Arabic acronym.

Shiite-majority Iraq has been largely supportive of Syria and the Iran-backed Hezbollah in their battle against IS, a Sunni extremist group and shared enemy. But many Iraqis expressed anger about the evacuation deal on social media.

The Lebanese government and Hezbollah have both defended the deal that allowed IS safe passage to the eastern province of Deir el-Zour, an IS stronghold, saying it was the only way Lebanon could uncover the fate of its captured soldiers and recover their remains.

But many in Lebanon were opposed to the deal, which they said allowed the killers of Lebanese soldiers to get off scot-free.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Afghan officials: daily talks w/Taliban</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/afghan-officials-talk-day-taliban-49495887">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/afghan-officials-talk-day-taliban-49495887</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Despite seemingly stalled peace talks between Afghanistan's government and the Taliban, officials say the intelligence chief speaks by telephone with militant leaders nearly every day about the country's constitution and political future.</p> <p>In addition, Afghanistan's national security adviser has conversations with the Taliban every other month, officials familiar with the efforts said.</p> <p>The Associated Press has seen documents describing the conversations between the Afghan officials and the Taliban leadership in both Pakistan and the Gulf state of Qatar, where they maintain an office.</p> <p>While Afghan officials said neither side was ready to agree to public peace talks, the documents revealed details of the issues discussed, including the Taliban's apparent willingness to accept Afghanistan's constitution and future elections.</p> <p>A senior Afghan security official, who had taken notes on the details of talks, rifled through a black leather-bound book until he came to a list he called "Taliban talking points."</p> <p>The Afghan security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media, said the Taliban wanted certain amendments to the constitution — although not immediately. They also envisioned an Islamic system of governance in Afghanistan, he said.</p> <p>Among the Taliban's demands, according to the official:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— They accepted education for boys and girls at all levels, but wanted segregation by gender.</li><li>— Women could be employed in all fields, including defense and the judiciary, and they could serve as judges at all levels except the Supreme Court. However, the Taliban wanted constitutional guarantees that a woman could not be president.</li><li>— Special courts should be established to oversee thousands of cases that allege land was taken illegally by the rich and powerful in the post-Taliban era. Many of the land owners are former warlords who are now in the government. The Taliban wants the land returned to those from whom it was taken.</li><li>— Elections could be held after an interim government is established, with no one affiliated with past governments allowed to serve in the interim administration. The Taliban said all sides could keep areas currently under their control until voting is held.</li></ul>

Afghanistan's Intelligence agency had no comment about the contacts with the Taliban. Officials familiar with the conversations said intelligence chief Masoum Stanikzai has near daily telephone conversations with Taliban leader Abbas Stanikzai, who is not related to him. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters.

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## Suspicious, Unusual

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HEADLINE	<b>08/29 Study: coffee lowers risk of death</b>
SOURCE	<a href="https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2017/08/29/Coffee-decreases-risk-of-death-study-says/1411504025551/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=lh&amp;utm_medium=3">https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2017/08/29/Coffee-decreases-risk-of-death-study-says/1411504025551/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=lh&amp;utm_medium=3</a>
GIST	<p>That morning cup of coffee may be doing more than serving up a needed caffeine jolt -- it may be adding years to your life.</p> <p>At least that's the conclusion of a preliminary study that suggests -- but doesn't prove -- that coffee is associated with a lower risk of death in the next 10 years.</p> <p>"Our findings suggest that drinking four cups of coffee each day can be part of a healthy diet in healthy people," said researcher Dr. Adela Navarro, a cardiologist at Hospital de Navarra in Pamplona, Spain.</p> <p>The findings were presented Sunday at the European Society of Cardiology Congress, in Barcelona.</p> <p>For the study, researchers investigated the association between coffee consumption and risk of death. The observational study involved about 20,000 middle-aged people from the Mediterranean region. The participants were 37 years old, on average, at the start of the study and were followed for approximately 10 years.</p> <p>"Coffee is one of the most widely consumed beverages around the world," Navarro said in a society news release. "Previous studies have suggested that drinking coffee might be inversely associated with all-cause mortality but this has not been investigated in a Mediterranean country."</p> <p>When the study began, the participants completed a survey about their lifestyle, overall health, diet and coffee consumption. The researchers also collected socio-demographic information, such as age, gender and ethnicity.</p> <p>During the follow-up period, the researchers tracked the participants using information from their families, updates from the post office and a national death index.</p> <p>Over the course of the next decade, 337 of the participants died. And those who drank at least four cups of coffee a day had a 64 percent lower risk of death from any cause than those who drank little or no coffee on a regular basis, the study authors said.</p> <p>After examining additional data, the researchers said they found the benefit of drinking coffee was even more notable among the participants who were 45 or older. Among these folks, drinking two extra cups of coffee a day was linked with a 30 percent lower risk of death during the follow-up period.</p> <p>"We found an inverse association between drinking coffee and the risk of all-cause mortality, particularly in people aged 45 years and above. This may be due to a stronger protective association among older participants," Navarro said.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Mexican police trade guns for guitars</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/08/29/mexican-police-trade-guns-for-guitars-in-hope-that-mariachi-restores-public-trust.html">http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/08/29/mexican-police-trade-guns-for-guitars-in-hope-that-mariachi-restores-public-trust.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>As Mexico's security situation continues to deteriorate -- along with public trust in law enforcement -- some police officers in the country are trading in their guns for guitarrones in an effort to help improve the image of the force.</p> <p>A group of 21 federal police officers, who also just happen to be professional musicians, have formed a mariachi band in order to show the human side of law enforcement and break down widespread mistrust in the force -- a chronic issue in a country plagued by the underreporting of crimes.</p> <p>Playing one of the country's most famous and popular styles of folk music is meant to show that cops are present in some regions of Mexico -- Michoacán, Tamaulipas and Sinaloa, for example -- that have been hotspots for a drug war that has raged for more than a decade, Federal Police Mariachi Musical Director <u>Juan Ramón Soto</u> said to <u>El Universal</u>.</p> <p>"Citizens have an erroneous perception of the Federal Police," Soto said. "We're providing crime prevention through music and trust."</p> <p>Mexico's drug war, which began in 2006 when then-President Felipe Calderón declared an all-out military offensive on the country's narcotraffickers, has left at least 200,000 dead. While current President Enrique Peña Nieto came into office in 2012, a time when violence was on the decline, the bloodshed continues and in June the country saw a record number of killings: 2,566 homicide victims being the most in a month since the Mexican government started releasing that data in 2014.</p> <p>While never particularly high, public trust in the police, at both a federal and local level, has plummeted in recent years amid widespread reports of corruption, extrajudicial killings and collusion with drug traffickers.</p> <p>Mexico's human rights agency last year found that federal police executed at least 22 people during a 2015 confrontation with suspected cartel criminals last year and then rearranged the scene by moving bodies and planting guns to support the official version of the bloodshed. One police officer was killed in the confrontation and the government said the dead were drug cartel suspects who were hiding out on a ranch in Tanhuato near the border with Jalisco state.</p> <p>An opinion poll taken in Mexico earlier this year found that the municipal police and federal police were the lowest-rated security institutions in the country, with two-thirds of those surveyed saying they believe the police are "controlled by organized crime" and more than one-fifth claiming that only a total revamping of the law enforcement organizations would improve federal trust.</p> <p>Those sentiments were echoed by experts, who said that while the mariachi unit may be a creative attempt to address a lack of public trust, it will not be enough.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 NKorea's most dangerous weapon?</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/08/29/north-koreas-antique-airplane-could-be-its-most-dangerous-weapon-yet.html">http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/08/29/north-koreas-antique-airplane-could-be-its-most-dangerous-weapon-yet.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Amid escalating tensions with the United States, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un tested out a seemingly laughable, but key part of his arsenal.</p> <p>Footage recently emerged of North Korea paratroopers jumping out of what seems to be two 70-year-old Antonov An-2 transport aircrafts.</p> <p>While the concept of Pyongyang using these Stalin-era planes seems far-fetched considering the nuclear</p>

weapons at its disposal, the aircrafts could be North Korea's most deadly weapon. The dated aircraft raises the concern that they could be used to transport a nuclear bomb to be dropped quite easily without triggering any radar at any specific target.

According to several reports, the North Korean army has a fleet of 200 Antonov An-2 aircrafts. They were first "introduced" in 2015, but disregarded as obsolete by many. However, what makes them so dangerous is that they have an incredibly low radar profile, meaning they are difficult to track using conventional aircraft.

The Drive reported the aircraft fly at such a slow speed and low altitude that modern surface-to-air missile systems would have a very hard time detecting and engaging them.

The aircraft, initially designed as a crop duster and utility transport, can land on short sections of a road that would make disembarking soldiers quite easy and sneaky.

According to the BBC, the Antonov An-2 first flew in 1947 as the Soviet Union was rebuilding after the end of World War II. Aside from its remarkable short take-off and landing, it can basically fly backwards.

"The reason the An-2 still flies is that there is really no other aircraft like it," aviation writer Bernie Leighton, who has flown in an An-2 in Belarus, told the BCC. "If you need an aircraft that can carry 10 soldiers, people or goats, that can take off from anywhere and land anywhere – it is either that or a helicopter."

The Soviet Union built more than 10,000 airplanes before it fell in 1991.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 NYC raises price pack of cigarettes: \$13</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/nyc-to-hike-price-of-cigarette-packs-to-13-highest-in-u-s/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/nyc-to-hike-price-of-cigarette-packs-to-13-highest-in-u-s/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>New York City is setting another record: becoming the most expensive place in the U.S. to buy cigarettes.</p> <p>The price of a pack of cigarettes in New York City is going up — to at least \$13 — and the number of places you can buy them is going down under legislation signed Monday by the mayor.</p> <p>The new minimum price law, which takes effect on June 1, 2018, will make New York the most expensive place in the U.S. to buy cigarettes, Health Department officials said.</p> <p>"We are sending a loud and clear message that we will not let their greed kill any more New Yorkers without a fight," Mayor Bill de Blasio said at a bill signing ceremony at a Brooklyn hospital. "These new laws will not only help reduce the number of smokers in our city, but also save lives."</p> <p>Currently, the minimum allowed price per pack is \$10.50.</p> <p>The planned price hike is one of seven bills the Democratic mayor signed Monday aimed at pressuring the city's 900,000 estimated smokers to quit.</p> <p>Another new rule will reduce by half the number of retailers licensed to sell tobacco products. About 8,300 businesses now have a license. The numbers will be reduced through attrition, officials said. Philadelphia and San Francisco have similar licensing restrictions.</p> <p>Other laws will ban the sale of all tobacco products in pharmacies, require licensing of e-cigarette retailers and require all residential buildings to have smoking policies that are given to all current and prospective tenants. Some residential buildings will be required to ban smoking in common areas like hallways.</p> <p>Smoking rates in the city have declined from 21.5 percent in 2002 to about 14.3 in 2015. City health</p>

	<p>officials said they believed the new restrictions could decrease the rate to 12 percent by 2020.</p> <p>Opponents of the price increase say it may push many smokers into buying untaxed, unregulated cigarettes on the black market.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 USAF: first enlisted female pilot</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/08/29/air-force-tech-sergeant-first-enlisted-female-to-pilot-aircraft.html">http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/08/29/air-force-tech-sergeant-first-enlisted-female-to-pilot-aircraft.html</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The Air Force’s first female enlisted pilot in its history is ready to take command of the controls.</p> <p>“I was shocked, but it’s a huge honor and humbling – excited to learn about our mission here at Beale (Air Force Base),” Tech Sgt. Courtney said of her trailblazing accomplishment.</p> <p>The Air Force does not release pilots’ full names for security reasons.</p> <p>Courtney, a Vacaville, Calif., native who enlisted in 2005, graduated this month from the Enlisted Pilot Initial Class program alongside three others to become a RQ-4 Global Hawk drone pilot – without ever actually stepping foot inside one.</p> <p>Courtney is part of the Air Force’s expanded remote pilot aircraft (RPA) program that trains enlisted airmen to operate the unarmed high-altitude reconnaissance drone.</p> <p>“From this station I’m in full control of the aircraft, constantly know what the aircraft is doing, where it’s heading,” she said from the Beale Air Force Base.</p> <p>Throughout her 11-year career, Courtney has worked a number of roles in the intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance fields and this will be her biggest task yet.</p> <p>“Tech Sgt. Courtney doesn’t do this because she’s a girl. She just gets up every day and puts her uniform on and comes to work and kicks butt because that’s what she does,” Maj. Natalie, an instructor with Air Education and Training Command’s 558th Flying Training Squadron, said in a <u>statement</u> released this month. “That’s who she is. She’s not a woman pilot; she’s a pilot.”</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Study quantifies impact of opioid abuse</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://time.com/4920021/u-s-opioid-deaths-nearly-doubled-since-2009/?xid=homepage">http://time.com/4920021/u-s-opioid-deaths-nearly-doubled-since-2009/?xid=homepage</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Deaths from opioid overdoses nearly doubled between 2009 and 2015 in the United States, according to a <u>new study in the <i>Annals of the American Thoracic Society</i></u>, and the need for emergency care related to opiate addiction have outstripped the available supply.</p> <p>The paper is believed to be the first to quantify the impact of opioid abuse on critical care resources across the country. For the study, researchers from Harvard Medical School, the University of Chicago, and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev analyzed nearly 23 million hospital admissions over a seven year period, at 162 hospitals in 44 states.</p> <p>Almost 22,000 patients were admitted to intensive care units (ICUs) because of overdose from opioids—including prescription medications, methadone (which can be used to treat opiate addiction) or heroin. From 2009 to 2015, the number of opioid-related ICU admissions increased by 34%.</p> <p>Massachusetts and Indiana had the highest overall rates of opioid-related ICU admissions in the country over those seven years total, while Pennsylvania experienced the sharpest increase in opioid admission</p>

	<p>rates over that time. Illinois, California, New York, and Indiana also experienced significantly increased admission rates due to opioids.</p> <p>During that same period, the number of ICU patients who died from opioid-related causes nearly doubled. The death rate rose at roughly the same rate per month throughout the study period, but climbed higher beginning in 2012. In other studies, the researchers note, similar increases have been linked to more prescriptions being written for painkillers—which may lead to more addiction and overdoses in the following years.</p> <p>The average cost of treating each person admitted to the ICU for an overdose also rose from \$54,517 to \$92,408 over those seven years—an increase of 58%. Much of that rise came from expensive treatments like dialysis to treat kidneys damaged by the opioids.</p> <p>The authors point out that their estimates may be on the low side, because they only looked at hospital admissions that were coded as opioid overdoses—some opioid-related emergencies aren't classified as such, or were treated in places other than hospitals. In addition, their sample only included adults 18 and older.</p> <p>Other research has found that the U.S. death rate from drug overdoses has risen <u>more than 137%</u> since 2000, with opioid-related deaths making up a large portion. And because many people who become addicted to opioids also turn to illegal opiates that are often cheaper and easier to get, <u>heroin use in the United States</u> has also increased significantly during this time.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 NASA: 3-mile wide asteroid to fly-by</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/asteroid-space-nasa-earth/2017/08/29/id/810566/">http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/asteroid-space-nasa-earth/2017/08/29/id/810566/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p><u>A three-mile-wide asteroid</u> will sail past Earth on Friday — the largest object to make a close-encounter, albeit 4.4 million miles away, since NASA began tracking the events in the 1990s.</p> <p>Asteroid Florence was named after modern nursing founder Florence Nightingale, and was discovered in 1981 by astronomer Schelte Bus from the Siding Spring Observatory in Australia.</p> <p>"While many known asteroids have passed by closer to Earth than Florence . . . all of those were estimated to be smaller," Paul Chodas, manager of NASA's Center for Near-Earth Object Studies in Pasadena, California, <u>told spaceflightinsider.com</u>.</p> <p>Earlier this year, a 10-foot-wide, near-earth object (NEO) passed by at an altitude of just 9,000 miles — within the band of geostationary satellites at 22,300 miles, the outlet reported – and was detected just six hours before its closest approach.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Houston drainage grid 'so obsolete'</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/houston-drainage-grid-obsolete-unbelievable-49497953">http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/houston-drainage-grid-obsolete-unbelievable-49497953</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Houston's system of bayous and reservoirs was built to drain a tabletop-flat city prone to heavy rains. But its Depression-era design is no match for the stresses brought by explosive development and ever-wetter storms.</p> <p>Nearly any city would be overwhelmed by the more than 4 feet of rain that Hurricane Harvey has dumped since Friday, but Houston is unique in its regular massive floods and inability to cope with them. This is the third 100-year-or-more type of flood in three years.</p>



	<p>Experts blame too many people, too much concrete, insufficient upstream storage, not enough green space for water drainage and, especially, too little regulation.</p> <p>"Houston is the most flood-prone city in the United States," said Rice University environmental engineering professor Phil Bedient. "No one is even a close second — not even New Orleans, because at least they have pumps there."</p> <p>The entire system is designed to clear out only 12 to 13 inches of rain per 24-hour period, said Jim Blackburn, an environmental law professor at Rice University: "That's so obsolete it's just unbelievable."</p> <p>Also, Houston's Harris County has the loosest, least-regulated drainage policy and system in the entire country, Bedient said.</p> <p>If that's not bad enough, Houston is getting heavier rains with global warming because warmer air holds more water. Since 1986, extreme downpours — the type measured in double-digit inches — have occurred twice as often as in the previous 30 years, an Associated Press <a href="#">weather</a> data analysis showed in 2016.</p> <p>Add everything up and "it's a perfect mix for the perfect storm," Bedient said. "And that's why we flood so often."</p>
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## Crime, Criminals

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Student arrested for WSU bomb threats</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/crime/ws-student-arrested-in-connection-with-bomb-threats-at-dorm/">http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/crime/ws-student-arrested-in-connection-with-bomb-threats-at-dorm/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>PULLMAN — Police at Washington State University have arrested a student in connection with a series of <a href="#">bomb threats recently made against Stimson Hall</a>.</p> <p>Campus police arrested 18-year-old Jose Andres Tecuatl on three counts of threatening to bomb and three counts of felony harassment. The sophomore was arrested without incident Monday night in Stimson Hall.</p> <p>Tecuatl worked as a resident adviser at the dormitory.</p> <p>During the course of the investigation, officers searched a computer in the student's room and found evidence connecting him to the threats.</p> <p>Police say there is no evidence that Tecuatl had the ability to carry out his alleged threats.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Ton of cocaine hidden in concrete</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://sherbrooktimes.com/a-ton-of-cocaine-hidden-in-concrete/2197">https://sherbrooktimes.com/a-ton-of-cocaine-hidden-in-concrete/2197</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The organized crime has imported millions of doses of cocaine at the port of Montreal during three years in hiding the drugs into the concrete until the police in Ontario, discovered the pot aux roses this spring.</p> <p>It is interesting to traffickers from the Toronto area, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has updated this ingenious stratagem during a survey conducted between the months of march and July.</p> <p>The record is impressive, with seized records of 1062 kilos of cocaine, mostly in containers and a warehouse at the port of Montreal. Three Ontarians have been charged.</p> <p>“This is the largest seizure I’ve seen in my 33-year career. We just deprive criminals of high level of a</p>

quarter of a billion dollars in revenue by preventing the drug from reaching our streets,” said commissioner Vince Hawkes, yesterday, by revealing the details of the” project Hope “.

The drugs arrived at the port of Montreal aboard cargo ships from Argentina before being distributed ” across the country “, according to the OPP.

The bricks of one kilo of cocaine each were hidden inside of rocks, concrete, themselves scattered in pallets of wood stacked on top of each other in containers of 40 feet long.

“It was very difficult, if not impossible to find. The tracking dogs of the border services Agency of Canada have never been able to detect before it is known that there were, “said the deputy commissioner of the OPP, Rick Barnum, adding that the security forces have achieved a “good pipe” to unlock their research.

The bricks of cocaine that are in these bags and these boxes were camouflaged in rocks of concrete (mortise) from Argentina.

He added that this scheme had been going on for 2014, ” according to the information obtained by the Office for combating organized crime of the OPP, which has required the assistance of any police force in Quebec for this survey.

“It is definitely connected to the cartels of Mexico’s drug “, assured Officer Barnum.

The latter was not able to say if the buyers of these massive quantities of cocaine were the Hells Angels, the Italian mafia or another major group of Canadian organized crime.

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Security crisis in Mexico</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://nationalinterest.org/feature/americans-are-strangely-oblivious-the-security-crisis-mexico-22101">http://nationalinterest.org/feature/americans-are-strangely-oblivious-the-security-crisis-mexico-22101</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>The capture of Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman, leader of Mexico’s Sinaloa drug cartel, in 2016 and his extradition to the United States the following year, has caused that country’s already worrisome drug violence to become much worse.</p> <p>During the first six months of 2017, some <u>12,500 people</u> have perished in the carnage—a rate of more than 2,000 victims per month. That level is especially significant, because it is nearly twice the pace of Mexico’s previous horrifying spasm of violence from 2006 to 2012 during the administration of President Felipe Calderon.</p> <p>Guzman’s removal from the scene worsened the turmoil in two ways.</p> <p>First, it <u>triggered leadership rivalries</u> within the hugely profitable Sinaloa cartel. There is now <u>a ferocious three-way struggle</u> for control of that organization. That is hardly surprising, since criminal enterprises rarely have detailed (much less peaceful) succession plans for the departure of CEOs. The financial stakes also are exceptionally large. Under Guzman’s leadership, Sinaloa had gained control of a majority of <u>the trafficking routes</u> into the United States and nearly 50 percent of the total drug trade. It is, quite literally, a multi-billion-dollar enterprise that is now up for grabs.</p> <p>In addition to Sinaloa’s bloody internal strife, longtime rivals, such as the Gulf cartel, the Juarez cartel, and Los Zetas, which Guzman had outmaneuvered and weakened, have reasserted themselves. They also have become more <u>aggressive</u>, both against competitors and government security forces. However, Sinaloa is not the only trafficking operation to be experiencing violent factionalism. <u>Los Zetas</u> are also engaged in an intense internal power struggle. As the fragmentation of the trade increases, so too does the fighting.</p> <p>If all this were not enough, there are entirely new entrants into the fray. An especially worrisome one is</p>

Jalisco New Generation (JNG), a gang that emerged in the state of Jalisco a couple of years ago and is now branching out into neighboring states. JNG's viciousness threatens to exceed that of the established cartels—even the notoriously brutal Zetas.

Mexico's current agony continues a familiar pattern. Whenever governmental authorities eliminate a leading drug trafficker, or even an entire trafficking organization, the result is increased turmoil as rivals and potential successors maneuver to gain advantageous positions in the lucrative global commerce in illegal drugs.

That pattern occurred several times previously in Mexico, and it has done so in other countries as well. When the United States and Colombia crushed the Medellin and Cali cartels in the 1990s, including killing Pablo Escobar, the most notorious trafficker of that era, the principal outcome was the fragmentation of the Colombian-dominated hemispheric drug trade. It also was the main catalyst for Mexico's gradual eclipse of Colombia as the center of drug trafficking.

What such much-touted "victories" in the drug war did not do was dampen either the overall level of drug-related violence or the extent of drug exports to the United States and other retail markets. Exports continue at robust levels to this day to meet the voracious appetites of consumers.

The intensification of the drug violence in Mexico is not the only alarming development. The carnage is also spreading to areas of the country, including Mexico City itself, that previously were not major arenas.

Worst of all for Mexico—and for foreign visitors—the violence is now afflicting some of the country's most popular tourist meccas. Acapulco has achieved the dubious honor of being the country's murder capital. The Cancun area is now quite violent, with Western tourists becoming some of the victims. Even Los Cabos and Cabo San Lucas, which had been nearly free of drug-related violence, are now experiencing bloody episodes.

In late August, the U.S. State Department issued updated travel warnings covering twenty-three of Mexico's thirty-one states—including the major tourist areas. A Los Angeles Times article highlights just how bad the situation has become in some of the favorite destinations for U.S. and other foreign visitors.

"In Quintana Roo, the state where Cancun is located, 169 killings were reported from January to July, more than twice as many as during the same period last year.

In Baja California Sur, home to Los Cabos and Cabo San Lucas, 232 slayings have been reported this year, nearly four times as many as during the same period last year."

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Murder charge in Seattle hotel stabbing</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://mynorthwest.com/735010/woman-man-charged-in-stabbing-death-at-north-seattle-motel/">http://mynorthwest.com/735010/woman-man-charged-in-stabbing-death-at-north-seattle-motel/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>SEATTLE (AP) — A woman and man have been charged with murder in the stabbing death of a 48-year-old man in a Seattle motel room.</p> <p>The Seattle Times reported Tuesday that Luci Lucarelli and Elder Carceres are being held on \$2 million bail each in the death of Jonathan Finney.</p> <p>Charging papers say Finney paid his rent Aug. 18 at the Emerald Motel on Aurora Avenue North and told the manager he was going to take a nap.</p> <p>Prosecutors say witnesses and video-surveillance footage show Lucarelli and Carceres arrived at his room in the afternoon.</p> <p>The charges say Carceres left the room 19 minutes later wearing different clothing and that Lucarelli was</p>

	inside for another 30 minutes before leaving.
	Prosecutors say cash and a large amount of methamphetamines was stolen from his room.
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Tracking criminals thru fingerprints</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/new-technology-enhancing-how-fingerprints-track-local-criminals/600009342">http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/new-technology-enhancing-how-fingerprints-track-local-criminals/600009342</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Tucked away inside the King County Courthouse is the Regional AFIS program, which stands for the Automated Fingerprint Identification System.</p> <p>Fingerprints have been lifted from crime scenes -- and used to identify suspects -- since the late 1800s. New technology has made it possible to identify and share those prints within minutes.</p> <p>Recently, prints identified a man suspected of raping an elderly woman at an assisted living home in SeaTac, multiple suspects in a string of Auburn arsons, and the man convicted of raping a 12-year old girl in Shoreline.</p> <p>“They did get DNA in that case, but the suspect never had DNA on file, so DNA wouldn’t have solved that case as quickly as fingerprints did,” AFIS Forensic Operations Manager Michele Triplett told KIRO 7 about the crime fighting method many thought would eventually die-out.</p> <p>King County's AFIS data-base has more than 800,000 prints online.</p> <p>Instead of having to visually compare prints, an examiner can run a print through AFIS for a much quicker, possibly nationwide match.</p> <p>The prints of everyone booked into jail in King County are collected.</p> <p>“That new booking gets run against the latent print database, so then we will develop potentially new leads on other cases,” Fingerprint Examiner Wade Anderson explained. Because of the digital database, fingerprints “can just be sent on, electronically, to the state and the FBI.”</p> <p>King County’s AFIS is regional, providing faster identifications for multiple police departments -- sometimes within minutes.</p> <p>“If we have a name and the card on file, it could take 10 minutes,” Triplett said.</p> <p>She’s been lifting prints for nearly than 30 years and said they’re often found in unusual places.</p> <p>“People have a really hard time not touching cookie jars and refrigerators. They always want to see what’s inside those things, so we have a lot of success processing those items, and bathrooms as well.”</p> <p>Identical twins have identical DNA but fingerprints are unique, and thanks to AFIS fingerprints helped solve a crime from the 1980s that still haunts program manager Carol Gillespie.</p> <p>“A couple came into the office and wanted to see the computer and thank the computer for identifying the person who raped and killed their daughter,” she recalled. “It was very sad, very upsetting. But it also made me very proud of what we do.”</p> <p>King County's AFIS program is funded by property taxes, costing the average homeowner about \$20 a year.</p> <p>Triplett said, it is possible to identify a fingerprint even when a suspect is wearing gloves.</p>

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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Ex-Chicago cop convicted in shooting</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/08/29/Federal-jury-convicts-ex-Chicago-cop-for-shooting-2-teens/2161504061999/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=ts&amp;utm_medium=3">https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/08/29/Federal-jury-convicts-ex-Chicago-cop-for-shooting-2-teens/2161504061999/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=ts&amp;utm_medium=3</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>Aug. 29 (UPI) -- A federal jury found a former Chicago police officer guilty of unreasonable force during a 2013 incident in which he fired 16 shots into a car and wounded two teenagers.</p> <p>The jury took four hours to find ex-cop Marco Proano guilty of two felony counts of using excessive force in violating the victims' civil rights, reported the <u>Chicago Tribune</u>.</p> <p>He faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in federal prison on each count. But the former police officer with 11 years on the job has no prior criminal history and will likely get less than the maximum when he is sentenced on Nov. 20.</p> <p>Proano, 42, is the first known Chicago police officer to be convicted in federal court for an on-duty shooting.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Police: more charged in toppling statue</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/durham-north-carolina-confederate-statue-toppling-more-charges/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/durham-north-carolina-confederate-statue-toppling-more-charges/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p><b>DURHAM, N.C.</b> -- Three more people have been charged with <u>toppling a Confederate statue</u> in North Carolina earlier this month.</p> <p>Durham County jail records show that Jessica Nicole Jude, Joseph Baldoni Karlik and Qasima Rohan Elise Wideman were arrested Monday and later released. Jail records show each faces charges related to rioting and property damage.</p> <p>An attorney representing the three, Scott Holmes, declined to comment on their arrests.</p> <p>Eight others were already arrested previously on similar charges of tearing down the Confederate statue in front of a government building in Durham. The bronze soldier was pulled down Aug. 14 by protesters who climbed a ladder and attached a rope.</p> <p>The Confederate statue was dedicated to Durham in 1942. "The Confederate States of America" is engraved on the front of the monument.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/30 Canada catches man on US wanted list</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/canadian-officers-bikes-catch-laotian-born-man-u-s-most-n797301">https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/canadian-officers-bikes-catch-laotian-born-man-u-s-most-n797301</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>TORONTO — Canadian police officers on bicycles chased down and caught a Laotian-born alleged drug smuggler who is on the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's list of 10 most wanted suspects, authorities said Tuesday.</p> <p>Montreal police Commander Miguel Alston said Katay-Khaophone Sychanta, 35, was on a park bench preparing to smoke a marijuana joint with another man when police approached and questioned him last week.</p> <p>Alston said the officers were not satisfied with his answers after he produced identification that turned out</p>

	<p>to be a fake driver's license from Maryland.</p> <p>Alston said Sychanta tried to flee on foot along a bike path, but officers caught him and arrested him for suspected drug possession. Fingerprint checks revealed his identity.</p> <p>Sychanta was arraigned Thursday on charges of drug possession, obstructing the work of police and possessing false documents. It was not immediately clear who might be representing the suspect, and police did not immediately respond to a request for the name of his lawyer.</p> <p>Sychanta faces drug charges in Ontario in addition to those in the United States.</p> <p>He was first indicted in 2005 in Michigan. According to ICE, he evaded capture on drug charges in the United States and continued to supervise a drug-smuggling organization based near Windsor, Ontario.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Turkish officials indicted over brawl</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/turkey-protest-indictments-erdogan/2017/08/29/id/810535/">http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/turkey-protest-indictments-erdogan/2017/08/29/id/810535/</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>A total of 19 people, including 15 identified as Turkish security officials, were indicted Tuesday by a grand jury in the U.S. capital for attacking protesters in May 2017 during a U.S. visit by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.</p> <p>The indictments charge the defendants with attacking peaceful demonstrators who had gathered on May 16 outside the home of the Turkish ambassador, awaiting Erdogan's arrival after he had met with President Donald Trump at the White House.</p> <p>The case threatens to further complicate already tense relations between the two NATO allies. Ankara strongly opposes the U.S. decision to arm Syrian Kurdish rebels fighting the Islamic State group in Syria. Turkey views the Syrian Kurds as an extension of its own outlawed Turkish Kurdish movement and opposes any moves that could lead to the formation of an independent Kurdish state.</p> <p>All 19 defendants are charged with conspiracy to commit a crime of violence, a felony punishable by a statutory maximum of 15 years in prison. Several face additional charges of assault with a deadly weapon. Sixteen of the defendants had already been charged on June 13; Tuesday's indictment adds three new defendants, all Turkish security officials. Two of the defendants were arrested in June and face an initial court hearing on Sept. 7. The rest remain at large.</p> <p>Several are members of Erdogan's security detail who returned with him to Turkey, so it is unclear if any will face legal repercussions in the United States. However, they could end up being threatened with arrest if they return to the U.S. If any are still in the country, they could be expelled if Turkey refuses to waive diplomatic immunity.</p>
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<b>HEADLINE</b>	<b>08/29 Germany: more murder charges pending</b>
<b>SOURCE</b>	<a href="http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/prosecutors-expect-charge-german-nurse-killings-49488218">http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/prosecutors-expect-charge-german-nurse-killings-49488218</a>
<b>GIST</b>	<p>German officials expect to bring new charges against a nurse already serving a life sentence for two murders after determining that he might have killed another 84 patients, if not more, a prosecutor said Tuesday.</p> <p>Oldenburg state prosecutor Martin Koziolok said he expected his office would be bringing more charges by early 2018 against inmate Niels Hoegel, who gave patients overdoses of heart medication and other drugs because he enjoyed the feeling of being able to resuscitate them.</p>

Additional convictions could affect Hoegel's possibility of parole, but there are no consecutive sentences in Germany.

More than that, bringing additional cases to trial would help determine exactly what happened in those killings and provide some closure for families, Koziolok said.

"These were not all terminally ill people," he said. "Many were on their way to recovery."

He declined to give the ages of the victims or any other details about them, citing German privacy regulations.

Hoegel, now 40, was convicted in 2015 of two murders and two attempted murders at a hospital in the northwestern town of Delmenhorst and was sentenced to life in prison.

During his trial, Hoegel had said he intentionally brought about cardiac crises in some 90 patients in Delmenhorst by giving them overdoses. He later told investigators that he also killed patients in a hospital in nearby Oldenburg.

Hoegel worked at the Oldenburg hospital from 1999 to 2002 and in Delmenhorst from 2003 to 2005.

As part of a wider investigation involving both hospitals, police and prosecutors reviewed more than 500 patient files and hundreds more hospital records. They also exhumed 134 bodies from 67 cemeteries.

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